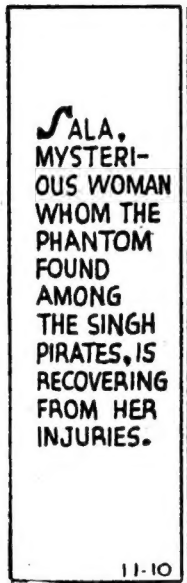
YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THIS PART OF THE WORLD IS INVALUABLE. WHY NOT JOIN UP WITH OUR SECRET SERVICE?
I'M A ONE-MAN SECRET SERVICE, HORTON THAT STARTED CENTURIES AGO.

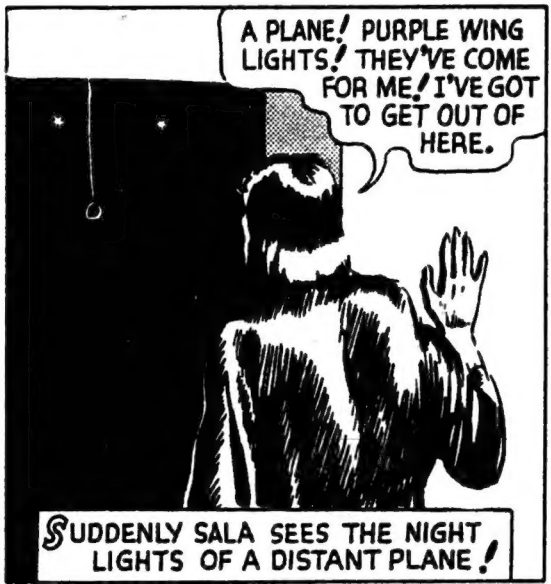
I DON'T LIKE TO PRY, BUT --WELL, I CAN'T KEEP ON CALLING YOU "YOU."
THE NATIVES CALL ME "THE PHANTOM." SO YOU REFUSE TO TAKE THIS SKY BAND SERIOUSLY, HORTON?
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved
11-9

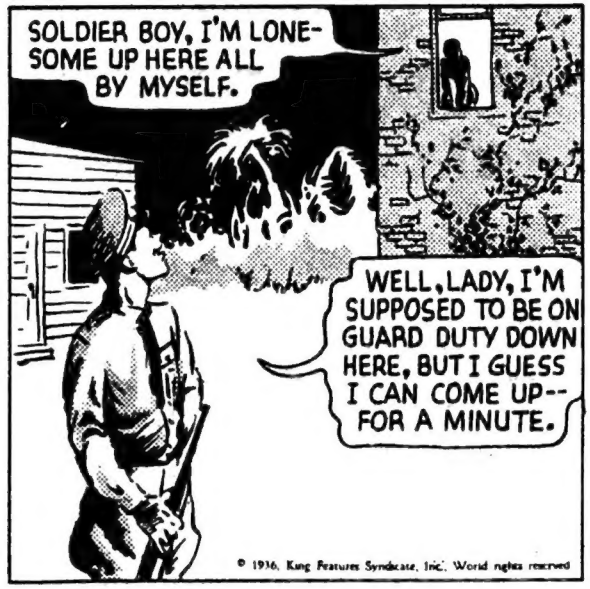
I'M POSITIVE THIS SKY BAND WAS THE OLD SINGH PIRATES, WHO ARE NOW DESTROYED.
I DON'T AGREE, HORTON. SALA IS AT THE ARMY HOSPITAL. THINK SHE'S WELL ENOUGH TO HAVE VISITORS?

YES, SHE JUST SUFFERED FROM SHOCK AND A SLIGHT INJURY.
THINK I'LL PAY AN INFORMAL CALL. I'LL GET THE TRUTH OUT OF HER!
tomorrow- SALA


SALA, MYSTERIOUS WOMAN WHOM THE PHANTOM FOUND AMONG THE SINGH PIRATES, IS RECOVERING FROM HER INJURIES.
11-10

I WAS A FOOL TO TELL HIM ABOUT THE SKY BAND. I THOUGHT I WAS DYING. PERHAPS HE THOUGHT I WAS ONLY RAVING--BUT HE'S TOO KEEN TO BE FOOLED!


A PLANE! PURPLE WING LIGHTS! THEY'VE COME FOR ME! I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE.
SUDDENLY SALA SEES THE NIGHT LIGHTS OF A DISTANT PLANE!


SOLDIER BOY, I'M LONESOME UP HERE ALL BY MYSELF.
WELL, LADY, I'M SUPPOSED TO BE ON GUARD DUTY DOWN HERE, BUT I GUESS I CAN COME UP-- FOR A MINUTE.
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved

HERE I AM, LADY. I'LL GET THE DICKENS IF I'M CAUGHT OFF DUTY, BUT I GUESS A FELLOW'S GOTTA HAVE A LITTLE SOCIETY LIFE ONCE IN A WHILE.
tomorrow - BINGO!

LET THIS BE A LESSON TO YOU NOT TO DESERT YOUR POST, SOLDIER BOY!
SALA CALLS THE HOSPITAL GUARD. AS HE ENTERS-

SO FAR SO GOOD.
SALA CLIMBS TO THE GROUND-

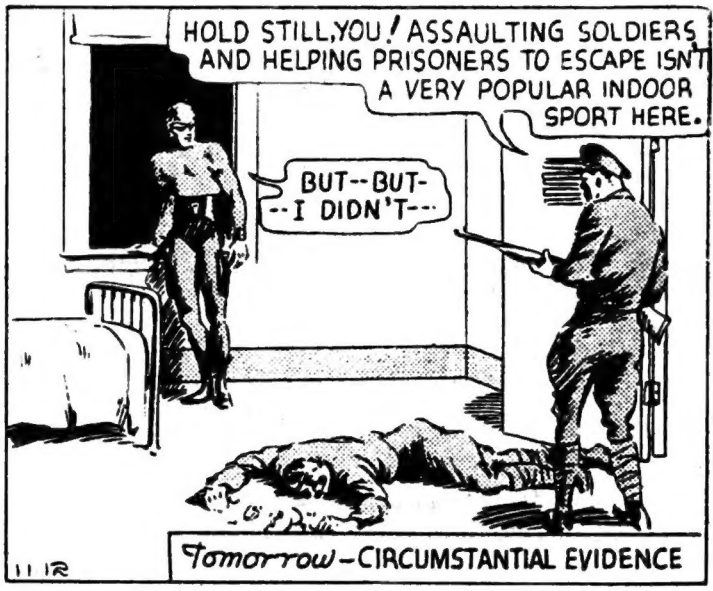
--AND DARTS INTO THE BUSHES---

KEEP QUIET, DEVIL. I'M GOING TO PAY A PRIVATE CALL ON OUR FRIEND, SALA, AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS SKY BAND.
--JUST AS THE PHANTOM REACHES the HOSPITAL!

WHAT'S THIS! LOOKS LIKE SALA HAS FLOWN THE COOP!

SHE PROBABLY HIT HIM WITH THIS PITCHER. NICE, QUIET GIRL! POOR FELLOW IS IN A BAD WAY.

A PLANE OUT THERE, LOWERING TO THE LAKE! PURPLE LIGHTS! I'LL WAGER IT'S COME FOR HER. I'VE GOT TO CATCH HER BEFORE---


HOLD STILL, YOU! ASSAULTING SOLDIERS AND HELPING PRISONERS TO ESCAPE ISN'T A VERY POPULAR INDOOR SPORT HERE.
BUT--BUT--I DIDN'T---
Tomorrow—CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE

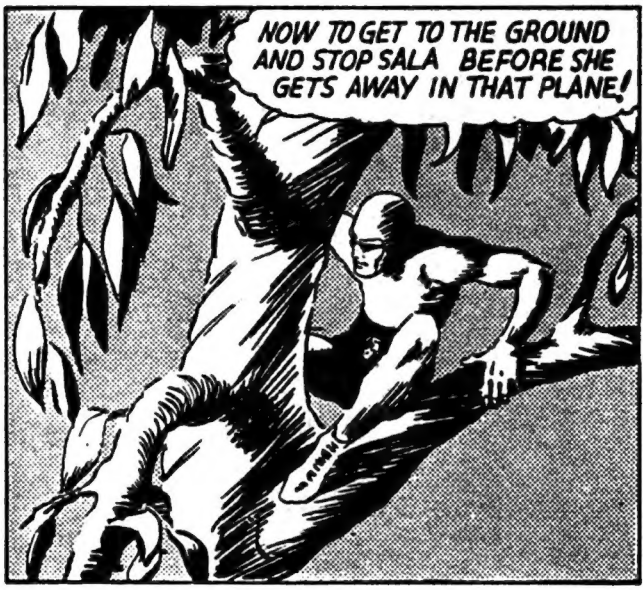
LISTEN, I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE IN A HURRY. SHE'S GETTING AWAY! I'VE GOT TO STOP HER!
SO YOU KNOW CAPTAIN HORTON EH? YOU THINK QUICK, DON'T YOU?

FOR THE LAST TIME, I DIDN'T HIT THIS GUARD. I FOUND HIM LIKE THIS. THE GIRL WAS GONE WHEN I GOT HERE.
PAYING A SOCIAL CALL THROUGH THE BACK WINDOW, EH? YOU'RE COMING TO HEADQUARTERS!

FOOL! THERE'S NO TIME FOR THAT. CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND? SHE'S-- OH, WHAT'S THE USE!

I HAVEN'T GOT TIME--TO ARGUE!
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved.
11-13
The PHANTOM SUDDENLY WHEELS AROUND AND DIVES HEADLONG THROUGH THE WINDOW!

WHERE THE DEUCE DID HE GO? HE VANISHED INTO THIN AIR!
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

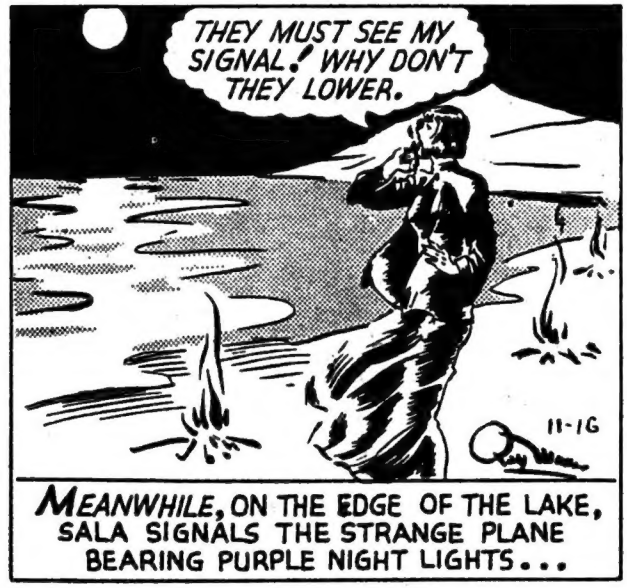

NOW TO GET TO THE GROUND AND STOP SALA BEFORE SHE GETS AWAY IN THAT PLANE!

--AND I FOUND OUR CORPORAL SMITH ON THE FLOOR WITH A BASHED HEAD AND THE GIRL GONE. AND THEN HE JUMPS OUT OF THE WINDOW BEFORE I CAN SAY BOO, CAPTAIN HORTON.
HE HELPED HER ESCAPE! IT'S INCREDIBLE AND YET---

FACTS ARE FACTS! HOW HE PULLED THE WOOL OVER MY EYES! FOOLED ME! IN LEAGUE WITH THAT GIRL ALL THE TIME! SEND OUT A GENERAL ORDER FOR HIS CAPTURE!
11-14
Next Week--THE SKY BAND STRIKES!

WHO IS THIS MYSTERIOUS PHANTOM FELLOW WHO HELPED THE PRISONER, SALA, ESCAPE ?
I--I REALLY DON'T KNOW. HE SEEMED A GOOD SORT, COLONEL DEVON, AND HELPED US ROUND UP THE SINGH--

WHAT KIND OF AN ARMY POST IS THIS? MASKED SAMARITANS SLIPPING IN AND OUT OF THE POST! I HOLD YOU RESPONSIBLE, CAPTAIN!
I'VE ISSUED ORDERS FOR HIS ARREST, SIR THAT IS, IF WE CAN FIND HIM. IT'S LIKE TRYING TO ARREST A SHADOW.
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved.


THEY MUST SEE MY SIGNAL! WHY DON'T THEY LOWER.
11-16
MEANWHILE, ON THE EDGE OF THE LAKE, SALA SIGNALS THE STRANGE PLANE BEARING PURPLE NIGHT LIGHTS...

IT'S NOT FAR TO THE LAKE, DEVIL. IF I CAN ONLY GET THERE BEFORE SHE GETS AWAY!
AND THE HUNTED PHANTOM RACES THROUGH THE DARK JUNGLE!

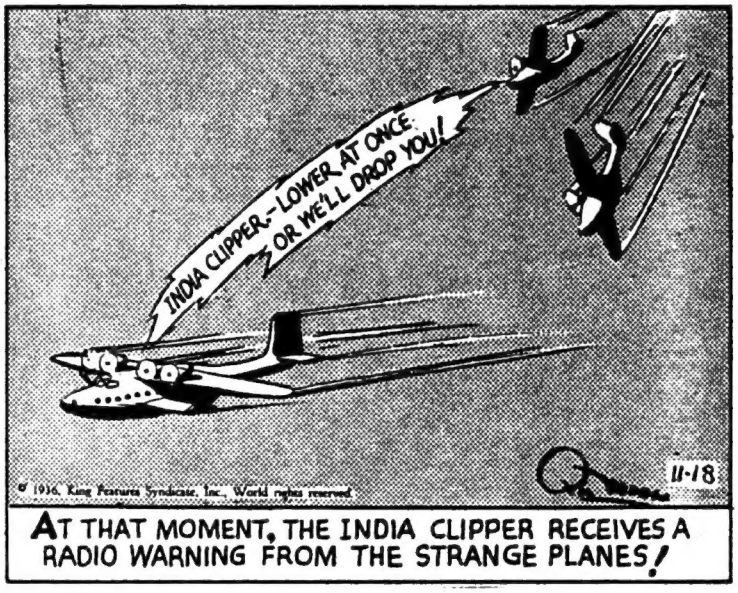
THEY'VE SEEN MY SIGNAL! THEY'RE LOWERING TO THE LAKE!
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved.

HURRY! I'M BEING FOLLOWED!
SALA REACHES THE STRANGE AMPHIBIAN BEARING PURPLE NIGHT LIGHTS...
11-17

TOO LATE! THERE SHE GOES! AND THE ARMY AND NAVY GUNNING FOR ME BECAUSE SHE BASHED A GUARD'S SKULL! PURPLE NIGHT LIGHTS! THAT MUST BE THE SKY BAND!

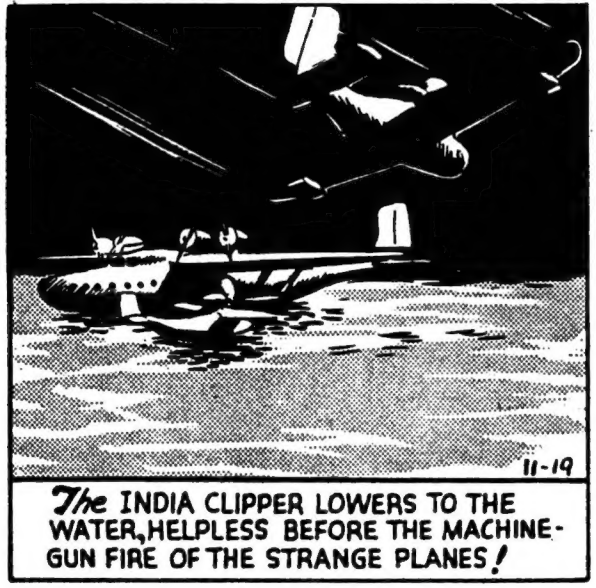
VALUABLE CARGO THIS TRIP, BOYS. IN CASE OF BAD WEATHER TURN BACK. WE CAN'T AFFORD TO TAKE ANY CHANCES.
THE CLIPPER CAN TAKE A TYPHOON IN HER STRIDE, CHIEF. BUT WE'LL BE CAREFUL.
MEANWHILE, AT THE BATAVIA AIRPORT. THE FAMED INDIA CLIPPER PREPARES TO TAKE OFF!

ARE MY EYES PLAYING TRICKS ON ME, JACK? AREN'T THERE TWO PLANES AHEAD?
RIGHT! PURPLE NIGHT LIGHTS— OF ALL THINGS! WHAT ARE THEY DOING WAY OUT HERE?
AS THE INDIA CLIPPER SPEEDS NORTHWARD OVER THE INDIAN OCEAN-

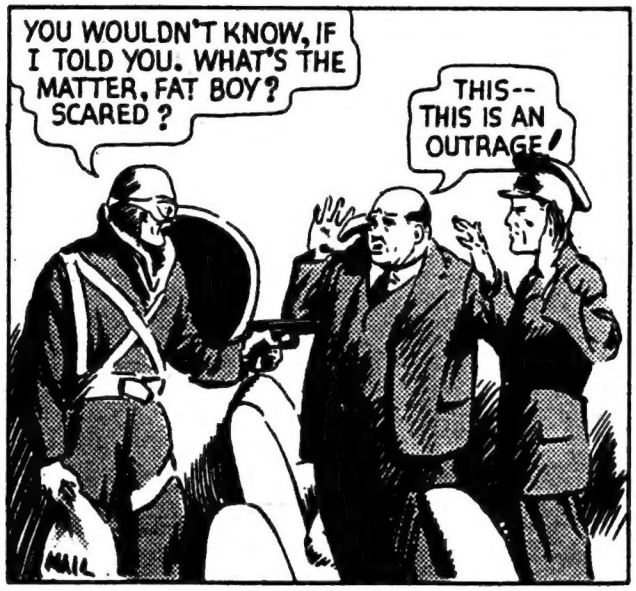

INDIA CLIPPER.- LOWER AT ONCE OR WE'LL DROP YOU!
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved
11-18
AT THAT MOMENT, THE INDIA CLIPPER RECEIVES A RADIO WARNING FROM THE STRANGE PLANES!

TELL THEM TO RUN ALONG HOME AND STOP JOKING. WE HAVEN'T GOT TIME FOR GAMES--
KEEP CLEAR. PLEASE STATE YOUR IDENTITY. KEEP CLEAR. KEEP CLEAR---

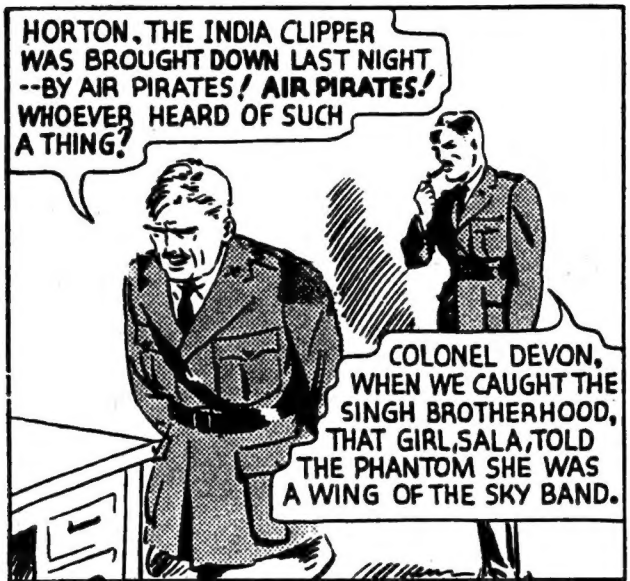
THEY WEREN'T --JOKING--
IN REPLY, THE UNKNOWN PLANES DIVE CLOSE TO THE NOSE OF THE INDIA CLIPPER! THERE IS A RATTLE OF MACHINE-GUN FIRE---


11-19
The INDIA CLIPPER LOWERS TO THE WATER, HELPLESS BEFORE THE MACHINE-GUN FIRE OF THE STRANGE PLANES!

KEEP YOUR HANDS UP AND YOU WON'T GET HURT.
WHO--WHO ARE YOU?
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved.

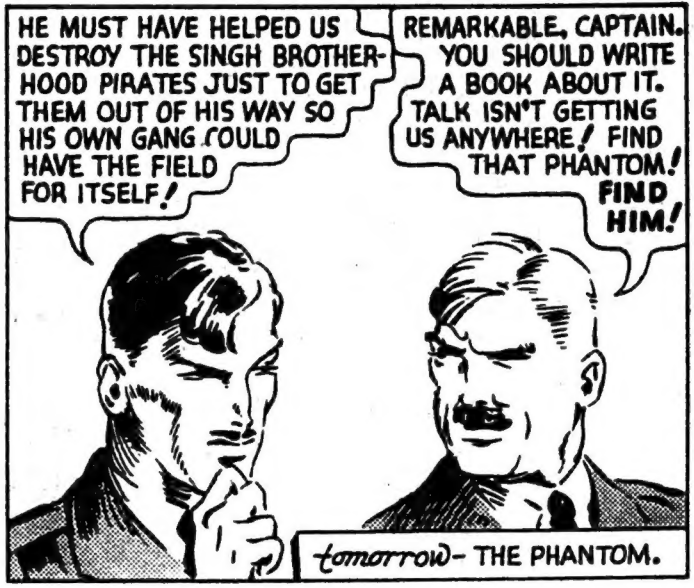

YOU WOULDN'T KNOW, IF I TOLD YOU. WHAT'S THE MATTER, FAT BOY? SCARED?
THIS-- THIS IS AN OUTRAGE!
MAIL

WE FEEL GENEROUS TODAY. WE'RE LETTING YOU OFF EASY. BUT JUST TO MAKE SURE YOU WON'T RADIO FOR HELP---
MAIL


HORTON, THE INDIA CLIPPER WAS BROUGHT DOWN LAST NIGHT --BY AIR PIRATES! AIR PIRATES! WHOEVER HEARD OF SUCH A THING?
COLONEL DEVON, WHEN WE CAUGHT THE SINGH BROTHERHOOD, THAT GIRL, SALA, TOLD THE PHANTOM SHE WAS A WING OF THE SKY BAND.

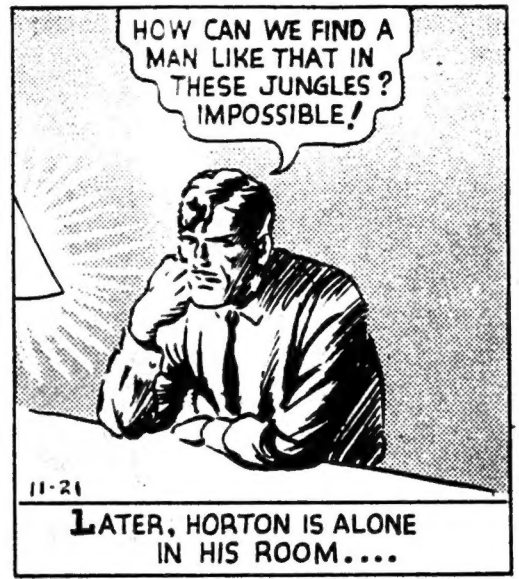
SKY BAND! PHANTOM! WING! WHY HAVEN'T YOU PICKED UP THIS PHANTOM, AND THE GIRL?
THE WHOLE POST IS SEARCHING, SIR. IT'S EASIER TO PICK UP QUICK-SILVER!
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved.

I'M ALL MIXED UP, SIR. I THOUGHT THE PHANTOM WAS ON OUR SIDE, BUT HE HELPED THE GIRL ESCAPE. I'M POSITIVE HE'S THE BRAINS OF THE SKY BAND!
11-20


HE MUST HAVE HELPED US DESTROY THE SINGH BROTHERHOOD PIRATES JUST TO GET THEM OUT OF HIS WAY SO HIS OWN GANG COULD HAVE THE FIELD FOR ITSELF!
REMARKABLE, CAPTAIN. YOU SHOULD WRITE A BOOK ABOUT IT. TALK ISN'T GETTING US ANYWHERE! FIND THAT PHANTOM! FIND HIM!
tomorrow- THE PHANTOM.

HORTON, THE SKY BAND STRUCK AGAIN LAST NIGHT! DISABLED A PLANE AND KILLED A PASSENGER! WHERE IS THIS PHANTOM?
COLONEL, WE'RE DOING OUR BEST. OUR NATIVE SOLDIERS ARE AFRAID TO SEARCH FOR HIM. SUPERSTITIOUS. THEY THINK HE'S CENTURIES OLD!

YOU KNOW THAT'S NONSENSE! YOU LET THAT MAN ESCAPE! YOU'VE GOT TO FIND HIM! HE'S LEADER OF THAT SKY BAND! THE MAIN HEADQUARTERS ARE DRIVING ME CRAZY!
AND YOU, SIR, ARE DRIVING ME -- YES, SIR.
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved


HOW CAN WE FIND A MAN LIKE THAT IN THESE JUNGLES? IMPOSSIBLE!
11-21
LATER, HORTON IS ALONE IN HIS ROOM....

YOU--DARED --COME HERE!
TAKE IT EASY, HORTON. YOU AND I ARE GOING TO HAVE A FRIENDLY LITTLE CHAT.
Continued

As NATIVE TROOPS SEARCH FOR THE PHANTOM, HE MAKES AN UNEXPECTED AND BOLD VISIT TO CAPTAIN HORTON!

11-23

HOW ON EARTH DID YOU GET OVER THE WALLS WITHOUT BEING SEEN?

NEVER MIND THAT, HORTON. I WANT YOU TO CALL YOUR SOLDIER BOYS OFF OF ME. I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THE SKY BAND!

THAT'S A LIE! YOU HELPED SALA ESCAPE. SHE ADMITTED SHE WAS A WING OF THE SKY BAND. YOU FOOLED ME ONCE BY HELPING US DESTROY THE SINGH PIRATES.

I KNOW NOW THAT YOU JUST WANTED TO GET THEM OUT OF YOUR WAY, BECAUSE THEY WERE TOO MUCH COMPETITION FOR YOUR AIR GANG!

THAT SOUNDS NICE, HORTON, BUT NONE OF IT HAPPENS TO BE TRUE. I'M OUT TO BREAK UP THE SKY BAND, MYSELF.

WHY, I THINK YOU EVEN HELPED DIANA PALMERS -- AND SAVED MY LIFE, JUST TO THROW ME OFF THE SCENT!

LEAVE DIANA OUT OF THIS, HORTON, OR I'M APT TO LOSE PATIENCE WITH THIS PHONY LOGIC OF YOURS!

© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

I SUPPOSE YOU REALIZE THAT YOU CAN'T GET OUT OF THIS ARMY POST ALIVE!

I GOT IN. I'LL GET OUT. HORTON, I LOOKED UPON YOU AS A FRIEND. THIS SKY BAND IS DANGEROUS. I WANTED TO WORK WITH YOUR MEN. NOW I'LL HAVE TO WORK ALONE.

© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

STOP BLUFFING! I WARN YOU, THE MINUTE YOU LEAVE THIS ROOM, I'LL SOUND THE ALARM!

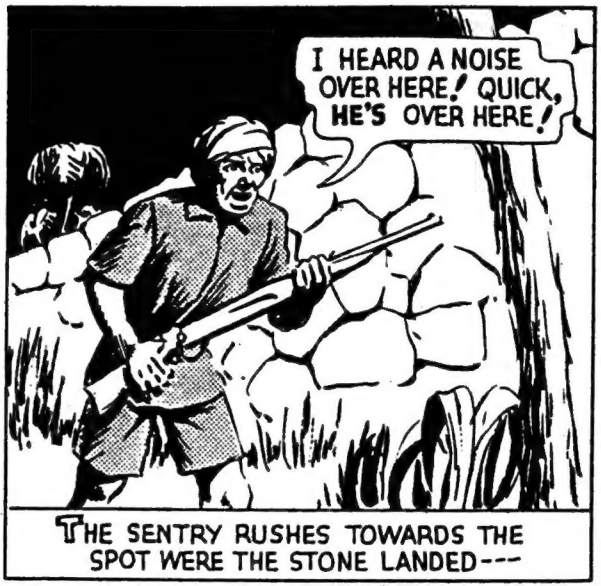
WELL, DON'T STRAIN YOUR VOCAL CORDS, CAPTAIN, I CAN SEE THAT I WASTED TIME COMING TO SEE YOU. GOODBYE!

FOOL! HE'LL NEVER GET OUT OF THE CAMP!

SENTRIES! ON YOUR TOES! BUGLER! CALL OUT THE MEN! WE'VE GOT THE PHANTOM!
11-24
tomorrow– DON'T COUNT YOUR CHICKENS

As CAPTAIN HORTON HURRIEDLY MOBILIZES THE EN-CAMPMENT TO TRAP THE PHANTOM ---
11-25
HE CAN'T GET OVER THE WALL! I'VE DOUBLED THE SENTRIES! WHEN YOU SEE HIM, SHOOT LOW. HE MUST BE TAKEN ALIVE!

SH-H-; DEVIL. THERE'S ONE OF THOSE BAD SENTRIES, JUST DYING TO TAKE A SHOT AT ME.
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved.
NEAR THE WALL, THE PHANTOM TOSSES A STONE INTO THE AIR---


I HEARD A NOISE OVER HERE! QUICK, HE'S OVER HERE!
THE SENTRY RUSHES TOWARDS THE SPOT WERE THE STONE LANDED---

DOUBLE-TIME, DEVIL! THEY'LL BE AFTER US WITH BLOOD IN THEIR EYES!
Tomorrow– SMACK, SMACK.

UH!
AS HORTON'S NATIVE SOLDIERS SEARCH THE ELUSIVE PHANTOM ON THE EDGE OF THE JUNGLE--

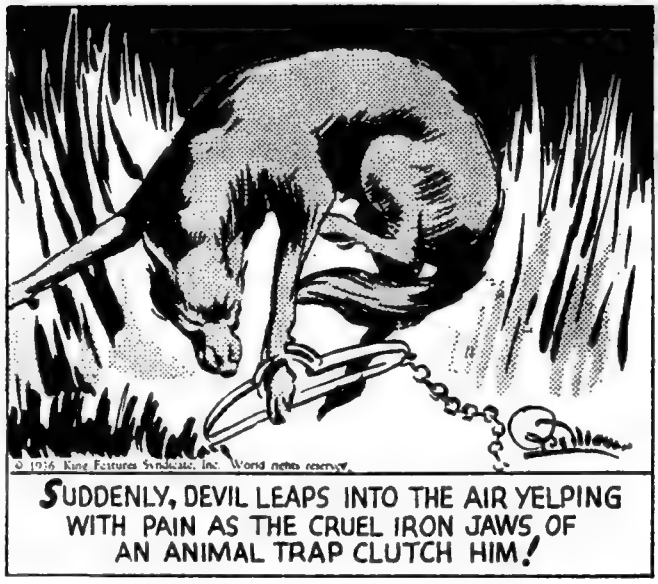
OH!
AND IN ANOTHER DIRECTION, A FEW MOMENTS LATER-

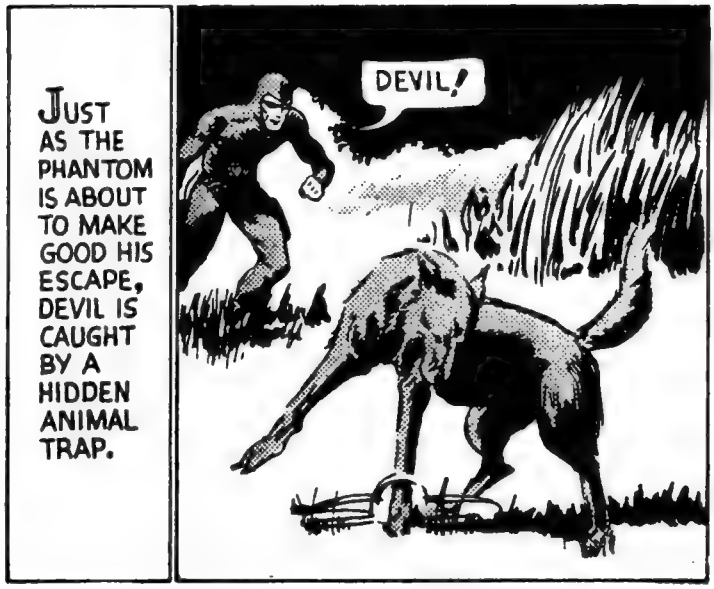
IT IS THE SIGN OF THE PHANTOM! HE HIT ME--OVER THERE!
ME-- OVER THERE!
BUT HE WAS JUST OVER THERE!
HOW CAN YOU CATCH A MAN THAT'S IN THREE PLACES AT THE SAME TIME! DEPLOY IN CRESCENT FORMATION! WE'LL SURROUND HIM!
TOMORROW—THE UNFORESEEN!
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved
11-26

HORTON'S NATIVE SOLDIERY SEARCH GRIMLY FOR THE ELUSIVE PHANTOM, WHOM THEY ALL FEAR—

THEY'RE GETTING WARM. DEVIL. WE'LL HAVE TO STEP ON IT!
AND JUST AHEAD---

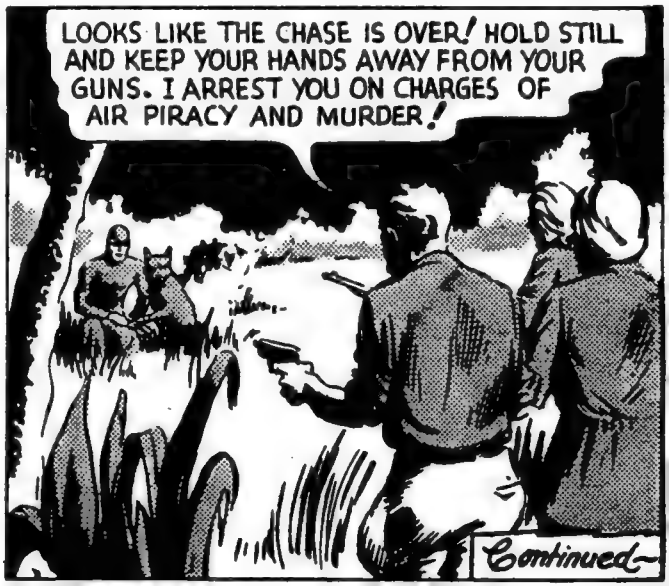
THEY'LL NEVER CATCH US NOW, FELLA. ANOTHER FIFTY YARDS AND WE'LL BE IN THE JUNGLE PROPER, WHERE IT'S THICK ENOUGH FOR A WHALE TO HIDE!
11-27


© 1936 King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
SUDDENLY, DEVIL LEAPS INTO THE AIR YELPING WITH PAIN AS THE CRUEL IRON JAWS OF AN ANIMAL TRAP CLUTCH HIM!


JUST AS THE PHANTOM IS ABOUT TO MAKE GOOD HIS ESCAPE, DEVIL IS CAUGHT BY A HIDDEN ANIMAL TRAP.
DEVIL!

POOR FELLA. THIS TRAP IS-- STRONG! BUT YOUR LEG ISN'T BROKEN. THERE COMES HORTON'S SOLDIER BOYS!
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved
11-28

CAN'T BE HELPED, DEVIL. I COULDN'T RUN AWAY AND LEAVE YOU LIKE THIS. ANOTHER MINUTE AND I'LL HAVE YOU FREE.


LOOKS LIKE THE CHASE IS OVER! HOLD STILL AND KEEP YOUR HANDS AWAY FROM YOUR GUNS. I ARREST YOU ON CHARGES OF AIR PIRACY AND MURDER!
Continued

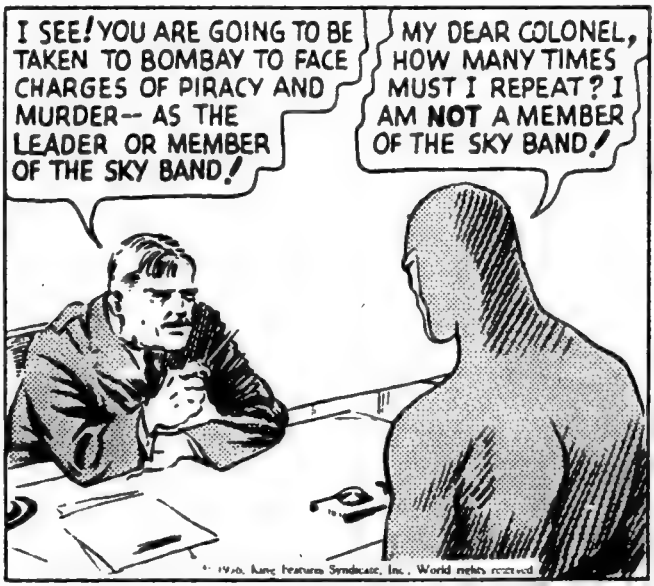
YOUR LEG'S ALL RIGHT, FELLA. GET GOING!
COME ON. WE'VE WASTED ENOUGH TIME OUT HERE! THE WOLF GOES WITH US, TOO!

WOLF? BETTER DEAD!
BUT AS DEVIL ESCAPES FROM THE CIRCLE OF SOLDIERS-

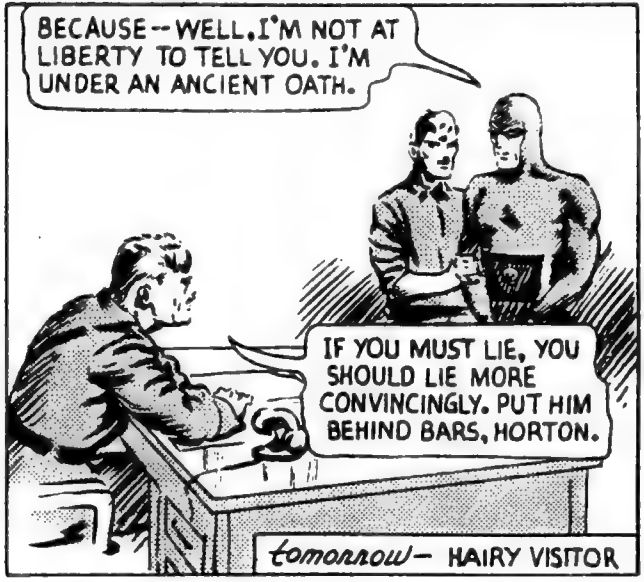
SHOOT DEVIL? WHY, YOU--

11-30
THE SQUAD MOBS THE PHANTOM AND DEVIL ESCAPES IN THE CONFUSION!

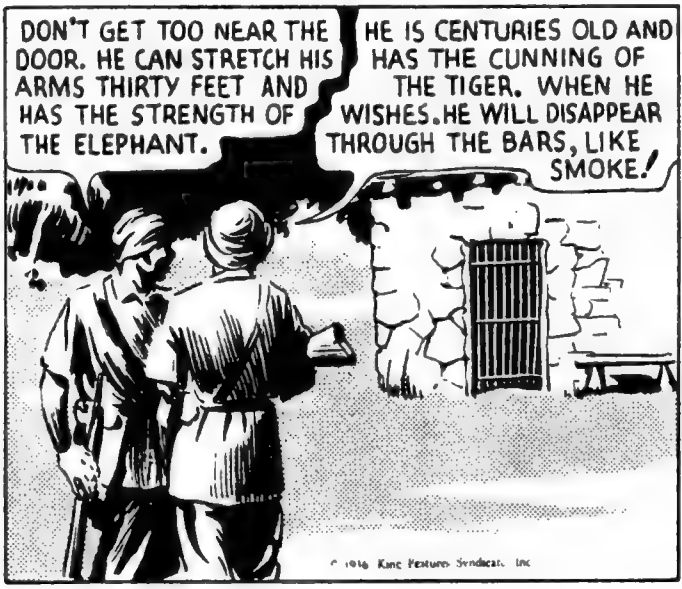
SO YOU ARE THE PHANTOM? I HEARD OF YOU WHEN I WAS A CUB. JUST AS A MATTER OF CURIOSITY, HOW OLD ARE YOU?
OLD ENOUGH TO KEEP MY MOUTH SHUT, COLONEL.


I SEE! YOU ARE GOING TO BE TAKEN TO BOMBAY TO FACE CHARGES OF PIRACY AND MURDER-- AS THE LEADER OR MEMBER OF THE SKY BAND!
MY DEAR COLONEL, HOW MANY TIMES MUST I REPEAT? I AM NOT A MEMBER OF THE SKY BAND!

WHAT IS MORE, I KNOW NOTHING OF THE SKY BAND. MY INTEREST IN THE BAND IS THE SAME AS YOURS. I WANT TO DESTROY IT!
REALLY? WHY?
12·1

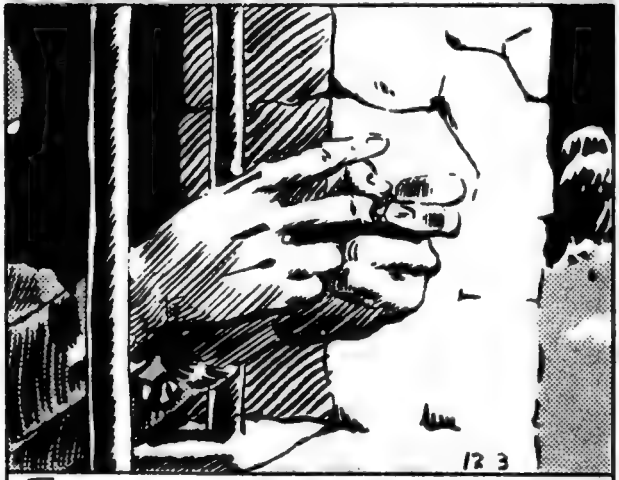

BECAUSE--WELL, I'M NOT AT LIBERTY TO TELL YOU. I'M UNDER AN ANCIENT OATH.
IF YOU MUST LIE, YOU SHOULD LIE MORE CONVINCINGLY. PUT HIM BEHIND BARS, HORTON.
tomorrow— HAIRY VISITOR

COLONEL DEVON, IT'S NOT WISE TO HAVE NATIVE SOLDIERS GUARDING THE PRISON. THEY'RE SUPERSTITIOUS --THEY FEAR HIM.
TOMMYROT! EVEN IF THEY ARE, HE CAN'T GET OUT AND THEY CAN'T GET IN. I'M KEEPING THE KEYS, MYSELF!


DON'T GET TOO NEAR THE DOOR. HE CAN STRETCH HIS ARMS THIRTY FEET AND HAS THE STRENGTH OF THE ELEPHANT.
HE IS CENTURIES OLD AND HAS THE CUNNING OF THE TIGER. WHEN HE WISHES, HE WILL DISAPPEAR THROUGH THE BARS, LIKE SMOKE!
© 1946 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

A FINE MESS I'M IN! CAGED LIKE A COYOTE, WHILE THE SKY BAND GOES MERRILY ON. SALA MUST BE LAUGHING HER HEAD OFF. WHAT'S THAT? SOUNDS LIKE--
THE PHANTOM SUDDENLY HEARS SOFT, PADDED FOOTSTEPS----
12·2

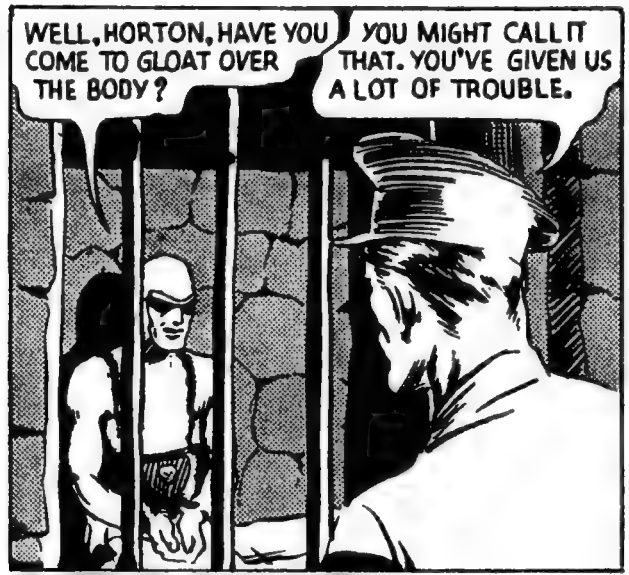
DEVIL! AT LEAST YOU HAVEN'T DESERTED ME!
Tomorrow— THE RING



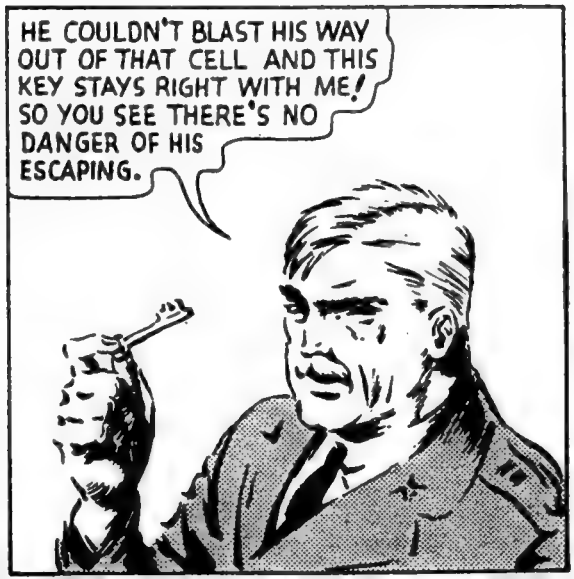
THE PHANTOM PULLS OFF HIS DEATH'S HEAD RING, THE ANCIENT SIGN OF THE PHANTOM, KNOWN BY ALL JUNGLE PEOPLE!

THE SUPERSTITIOUS NATIVE GUARDS WHISPER FEARFULLY TO EACH OTHER.

AND DEVIL VANISHES INTO THE BRUSH, CARRYING THE SIGNET RING IN HIS SHARP TEETH!



MEANWHILE, DEVIL HAS REACHED GURAN, WITCH-DOCTOR OF THE BANDAR, THE PIGMY POISON PEOPLE!

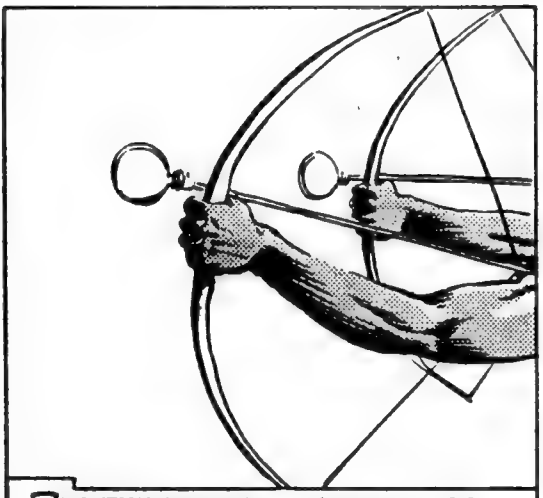


LATER, IN THE DARK OF THE NIGHT, THE BANDAR REACH THE OUTER WALLS OF THE ARMY POST, LED BY DEVIL!

continued—

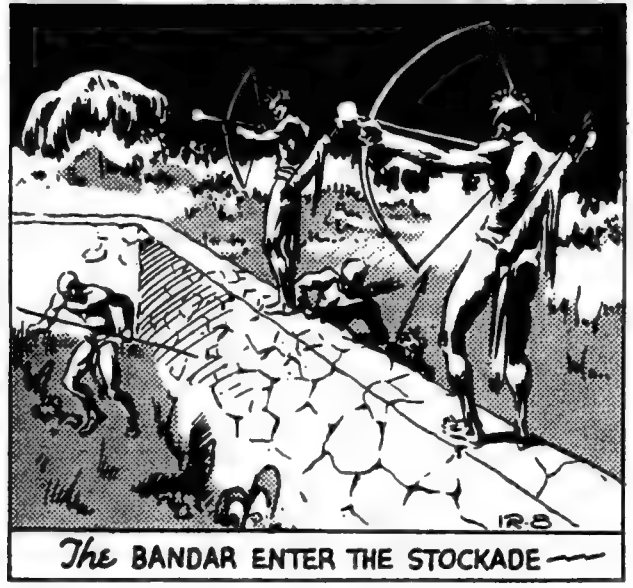
SILENTLY, GURAN, WITCH-DOCTOR OF THE PIGMY PEOPLE, CLIMBS OVER THE MILITARY STOCKADE.

AND WHILE THE NATIVE SOLDIERS DOZE—



THE **THUNDER-HEAD** ARROWS OF THE PIGMY BANDAR--STRONG SHAFTS TIPPED WITH **STONE** DISKS!

SILENTLY, THE BANDAR BEGIN THE ATTACK TO RESCUE THE PHANTOM!


12-8
The BANDAR ENTER THE STOCKADE---

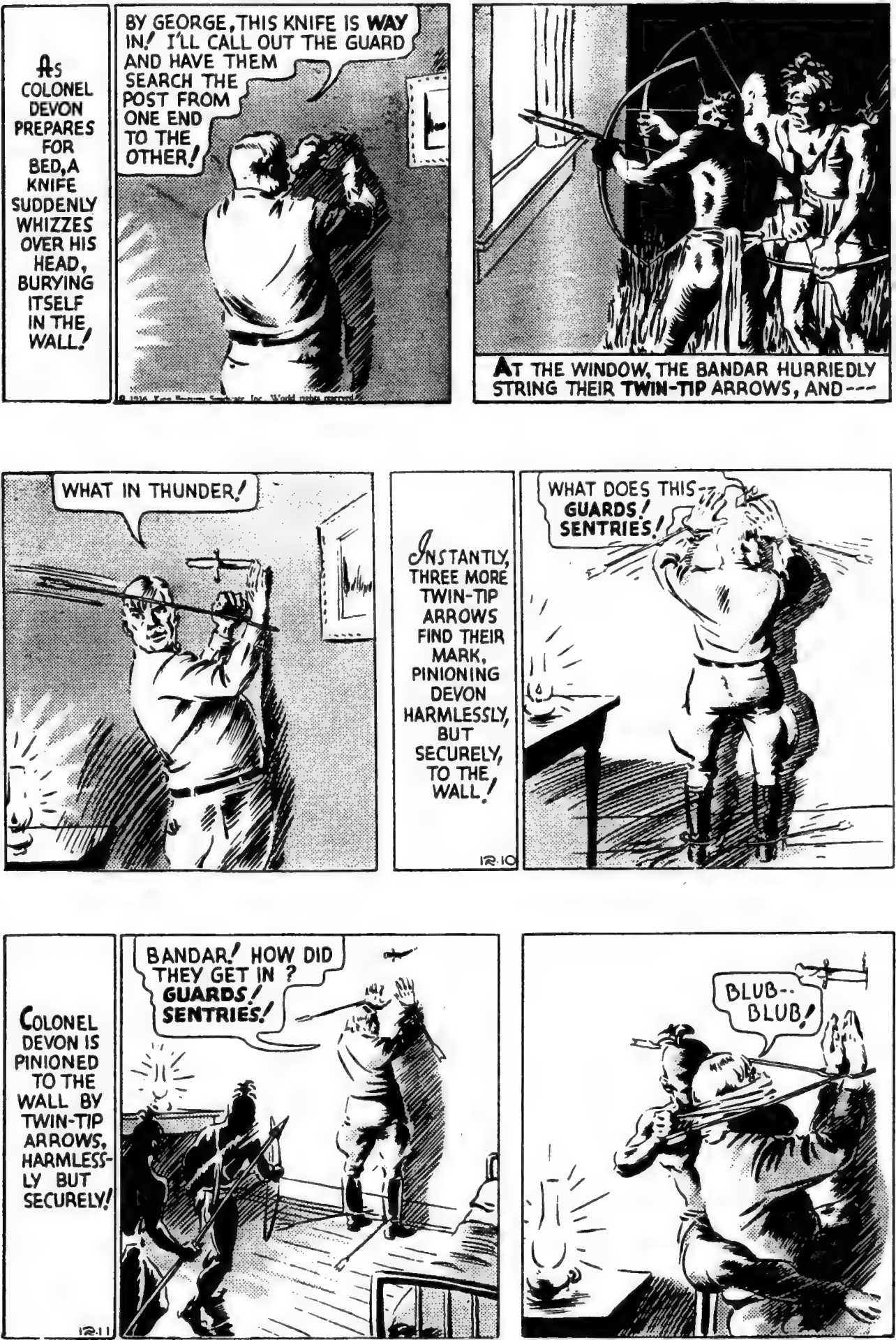
World rights reserved.
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc.
THE PRISON GUARDS FALL WITHOUT A SOUND AS THE THUNDER-HEAD ARROWS REACH THEIR MARK!

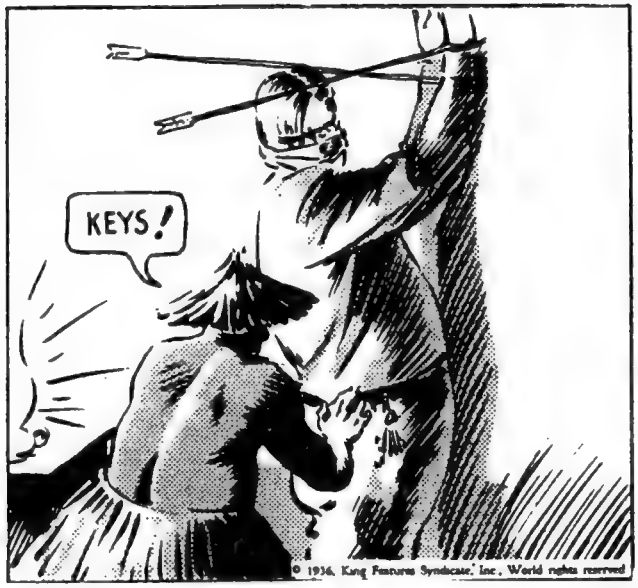
GOOD WORK, GURAN. THE COLONEL HAS THE KEYS TO THE JAIL. HE'S IN THE BIG HOUSE. DON'T HURT HIM. USE TWIN-TIP ARROWS. YOU KNOW HOW.
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved

WELL, NOW FOR A LITTLE SNIFTER AND THEN TO BED. WELL, MAYBE TWO LITTLE SNIFTERS.
AND AS COLONEL DEVON PREPARES FOR BED---

WHAT IN-!

THAT KNIFE MUST HAVE COME THROUGH THIS WINDOW! WHO ON EARTH COULD IT HAVE BEEN?
12-9
tomorrow—TWIN-TIP ARROWS


As COLONEL DEVON PREPARES FOR BED, A KNIFE SUDDENLY WHIZZES OVER HIS HEAD, BURYING ITSELF IN THE WALL!
BY GEORGE, THIS KNIFE IS WAY IN! I'LL CALL OUT THE GUARD AND HAVE THEM SEARCH THE POST FROM ONE END TO THE OTHER!
AT THE WINDOW, THE BANDAR HURRIEDLY STRING THEIR TWIN-TIP ARROWS, AND---
WHAT IN THUNDER!
INSTANTLY, THREE MORE TWIN-TIP ARROWS FIND THEIR MARK, PINIONING DEVON HARMLESSLY, BUT SECURELY, TO THE WALL!
12-10
WHAT DOES THIS-- GUARDS! SENTRIES!
COLONEL DEVON IS PINIONED TO THE WALL BY TWIN-TIP ARROWS, HARMLESSLY BUT SECURELY!
12-11
BANDAR! HOW DID THEY GET IN? GUARDS! SENTRIES!
BLUB-- BLUB!


KEYS!
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

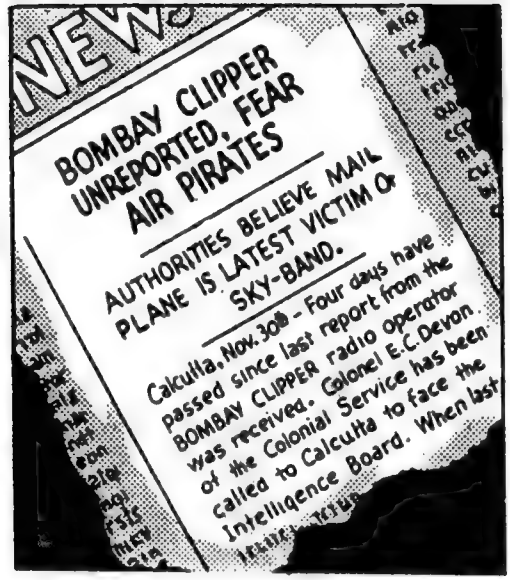
THOUGHT I HEARD SOME STRANGE NOISES OUT THERE. GUESS I'D BETTER GO OUT AND INVESTIGATE!
MEANWHILE, CAPTAIN HORTON AWAKENS!

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?
I DON'T KNOW, CAPTAIN. OU--MY HEAD. SOMETHING JUST --HIT ME! I--DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING. I GUESS I FELL OFF THE WALL!
AND AS HORTON MAKES HIS ROUNDS---

THE JAIL IS EMPTY! THE PHANTOM IS-- GONE!
World rights reserved
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc.
12-12

COLONEL DEVON--HE'S GONE! COLONEL DEVON! WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

FINE WORK, GURAN. BEST OF ALL, NO ONE INJURED. WHAT DID THE COLONEL SAY WHEN YOU CLIMBED UPON HIM AND GAGGED HIM?
HE SAID MANY THINGS, MOSTLY UNREPEATABLE.
NEXT WEEK-- PURPLE LIGHTS of the SKY BAND


NEW
BOMBAY CLIPPER UNREPORTED, FEAR AIR PIRATES
AUTHORITIES BELIEVE MAIL PLANE IS LATEST VICTIM OF SKY-BAND.
Calcutta, Nov. 30th - Four days have passed since last report from the BOMBAY CLIPPER radio operator was received. Colonel E.C. Devon of the Colonial Service has been called to Calcutta to face the Intelligence Board. When last

COLONEL DEVON, THIS MAN, THE PHANTOM, IS THE ONLY CLUE WE'VE HAD TO THE SKY BAND. WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?
I WROTE A FULL REPORT ON THAT INCIDENT, MAJOR. HE WAS TAKEN OUT OF THE JAIL.

AND THE WOMAN, SALA, WHO ESCAPED FROM YOUR PRISON HOSPITAL? WASN'T SHE ADMITTEDLY A MEMBER OF THE SKY BAND?
YES, AND THIS PHANTOM HELPED HER TO ESCAPE. THAT'S ALL I KNOW.
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

EIGHT MAIL PLANES HAVE BEEN DOWNED IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS BY PLANES BEARING PURPLE NIGHT LIGHTS. ASIATIC AVIATION IS PARALYZED! THE SKY BAND MUST BE DESTROYED.
12-14
tomorrow—THE MAJOR'S HOBBY.

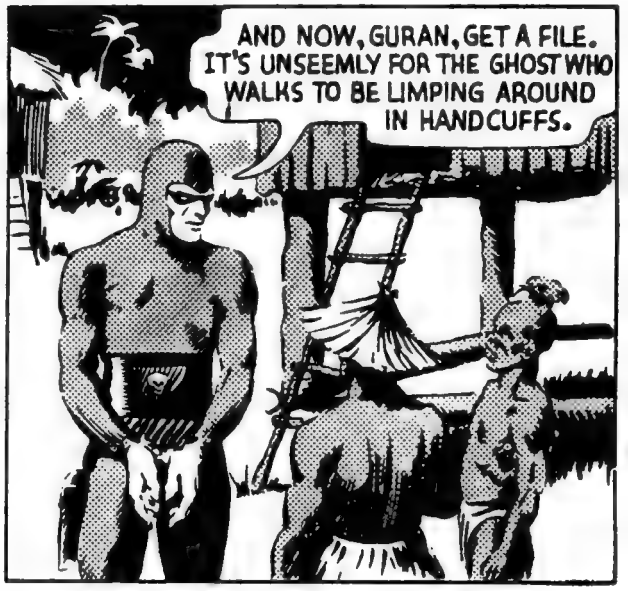
COLONEL DEVON, THIS SKY BAND IS MAKING US LOOK FOOLISH. ALL WE KNOW ABOUT THEM IS THAT THEIR PLANES HAVE PURPLE NIGHT LIGHTS.
AND THAT THIS PHANTOM IS THEIR LEADER!

ARE YOU SO SURE? YOU KNOW, THE PHANTOM'S A LITTLE HOBBY OF MINE. STUDYING SEA HISTORY, I FIND MENTION OF HIM FOR THE LAST FOUR CENTURIES -- ALWAYS FIGHTING AGAINST PIRACY.
YOU DON'T BELIEVE THAT NONSENSE, MAJOR

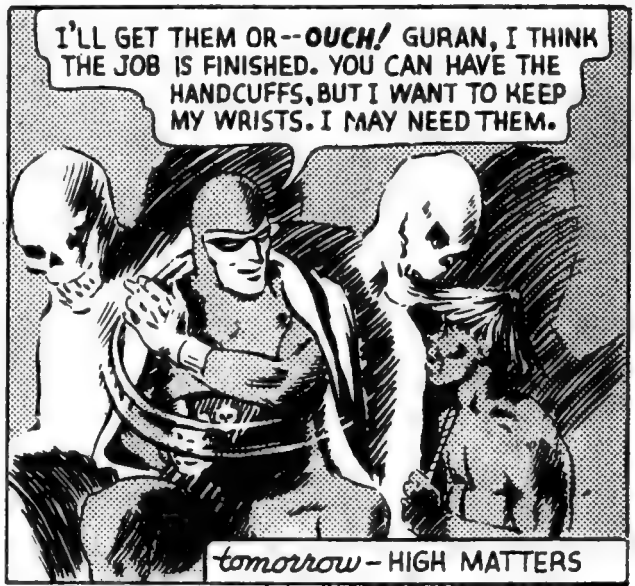
NOT EXACTLY. I DON'T THINK HE'S THAT OLD. HE MAY BE A MEMBER OF A SECRET ORDER, OR A FAMILY, THAT HAS COME DOWN THROUGH THE AGES, PLEDGED TO FIGHT PIRACY OF ALL KINDS.
BOSH! SENTIMENTAL NONSENSE! HE'S THE SKY BAND LEADER! I'LL BET MY BOOTS ON IT!
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved
12-15

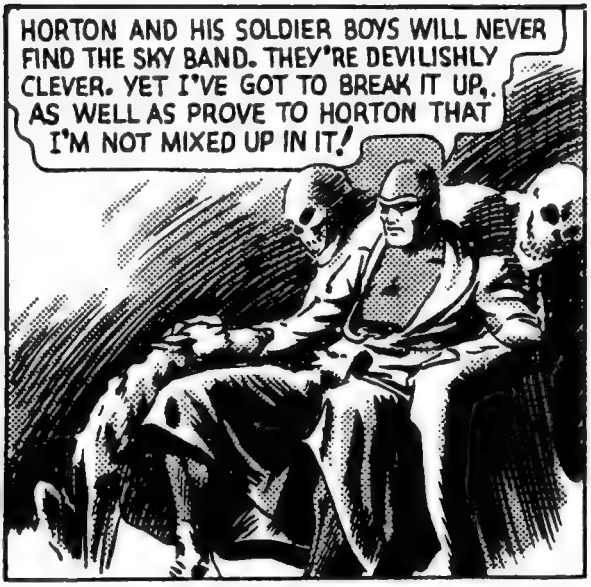
MEANWHILE, THE PURPLE LIGHTED PLANES CONTINUE THEIR RUTHLESS DESTRUCTION, STRIKING SWIFTLY AND DEADLY!

HE HAS RETURNED! THE GHOST WHO WALKS!
I HAVE RETURNED, THANKS TO YOU, MY LOYAL BANDAR.
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved


AND NOW, GURAN, GET A FILE. IT'S UNSEEMLY FOR THE GHOST WHO WALKS TO BE LIMPING AROUND IN HANDCUFFS.

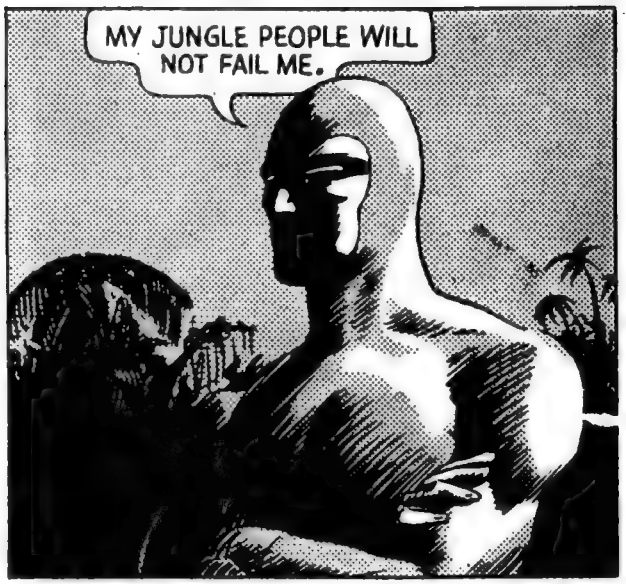
SALA GOT ME INTO THIS MESS. I'LL FIND HER AND THE SKY BAND, IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO. BUT WHO CAN THIS SKY BAND BE? I THOUGHT I KNEW ALL THE THUGS AND PIRATES EAST OF SUEZ.
12-16

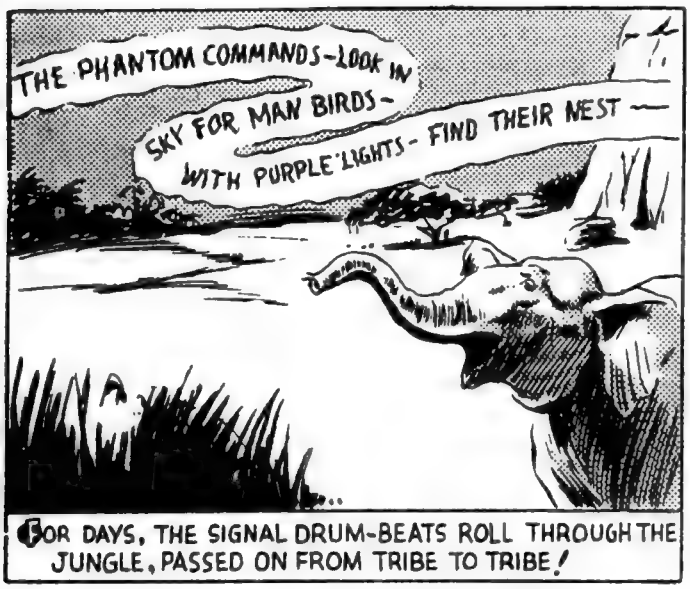

I'LL GET THEM OR--OUCH! GURAN, I THINK THE JOB IS FINISHED. YOU CAN HAVE THE HANDCUFFS, BUT I WANT TO KEEP MY WRISTS. I MAY NEED THEM.
tomorrow - HIGH MATTERS



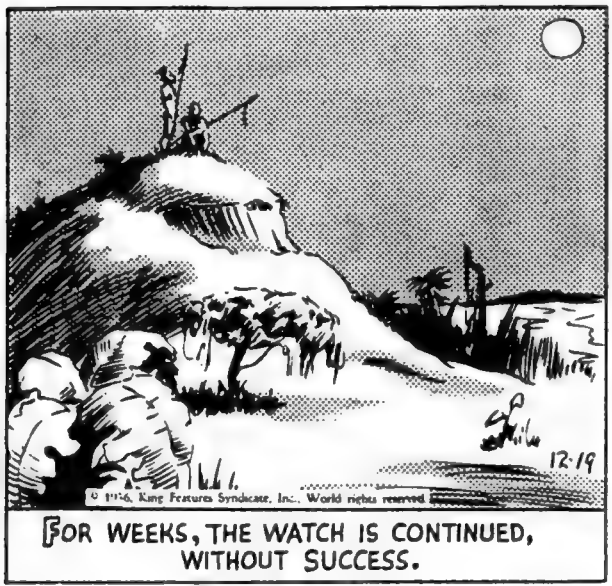
The PHANTOM TELLS GURAN TO ROLL THE SIGNAL DRUMS SO THAT ALL THE JUNGLE WILL SEARCH FOR THE SKY BAND!

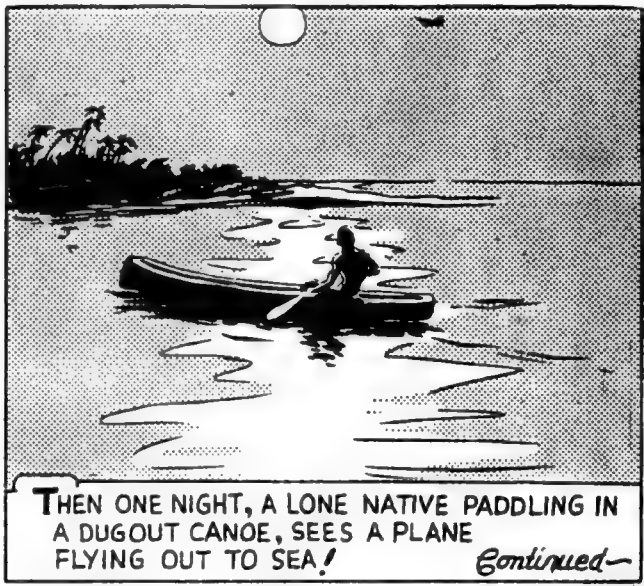
THE PHANTOM COMMANDS - FIND THEIR NEST
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved
12-18
TRIBE AFTER TRIBE PASSES ON THE MESSAGE!


MY JUNGLE PEOPLE WILL NOT FAIL ME.


THE PHANTOM COMMANDS - LOOK IN SKY FOR MAN BIRDS - WITH PURPLE LIGHTS - FIND THEIR NEST —
FOR DAYS, THE SIGNAL DRUM-BEATS ROLL THROUGH THE JUNGLE, PASSED ON FROM TRIBE TO TRIBE!

IN EVERY VILLAGE, LOOK-OUTS ARE POSTED!


© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved
12-19
FOR WEEKS, THE WATCH IS CONTINUED, WITHOUT SUCCESS.


THEN ONE NIGHT, A LONE NATIVE PADDLING IN A DUGOUT CANOE, SEES A PLANE FLYING OUT TO SEA!
Continued—

A NATIVE PADDLER HAS SPOTTED THE HIDE-OUT OF THE SKY BAND.

MAN-BIRDS WITH PURPLE LIGHTS! THEY NEST ON THE ISLE OF HERONS, GREAT GLIGOU!

YOU HAVE DONE WELL. OUR TRIBE WILL GAIN THE GOOD-WILL OF THE PHANTOM BY THIS ACT!

ROLL THE SIGNAL DRUMS. THE WORD SHALL BE PASSED THROUGH THE JUNGLE TO THE VILLAGE OF THE BANDAR -- TO THE PHANTOM!

GLIGOU REPORTS MAN-BIRDS WITH PURPLE LIGHTS NEST ON ISLE OF HERONS

© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

FROM VILLAGE TO VILLAGE, THE DRUM BEATS SURGE THROUGH THE JUNGLE!

The MESSAGE IS RECEIVED IN THE VILLAGE OF THE PYGMY POISON PEOPLE!

GOOD! I KNEW MY JUNGLE PEOPLE WOULDN'T FAIL ME. SIGNAL GLIGOU TO HAVE WAR CANOE AND PADDLERS READY FOR ME!

12-21

GOOD WORK, GLIGOU. YOU SHALL BE REWARDED.

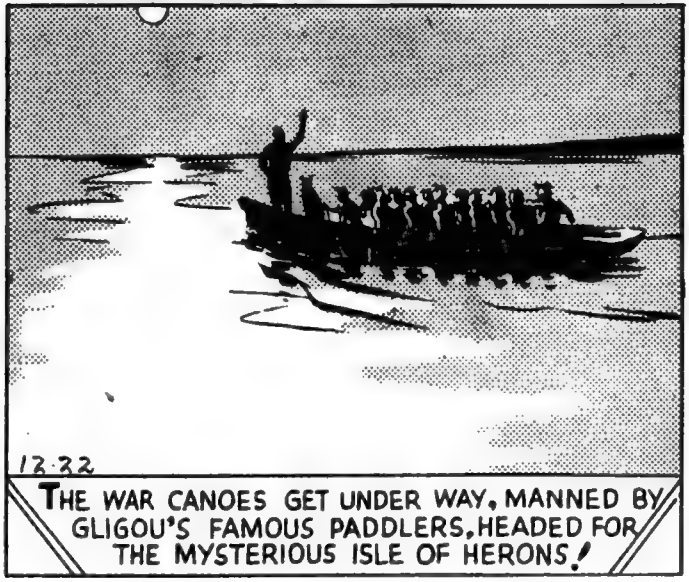
THE WAR CANOE AND PADDLERS AWAIT YOU, AS YOU ORDERED, OH, GHOST WHO WALKS.

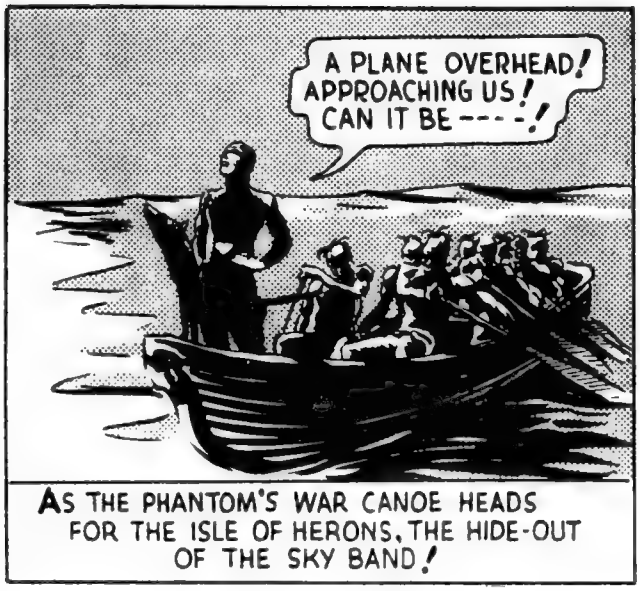
I ASK NO REWARD, OH, ANCIENT ONE. ONLY YOUR GOOD WILL AND PROTECTION FROM ALL EVIL MEN AND EVIL SPIRITS!

YOU SHALL ALWAYS HAVE THAT, MY SON.

© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

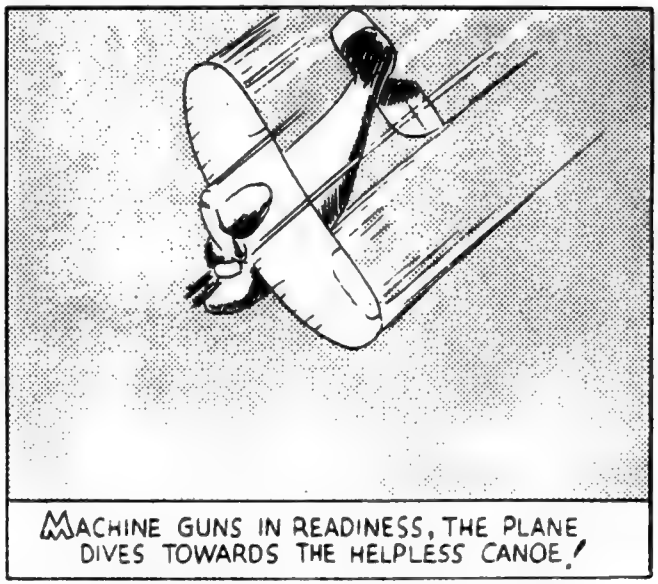
I KEEP FORGETTING I'M SUPPOSED TO BE FOUR HUNDRED YEARS OLD, DEVIL! GLIGOU'S OLD ENOUGH TO BE MY GRANDPA. THE ONLY EVIL SPIRITS HE HAS TO FEAR ARE GIN AND WHISKEY.

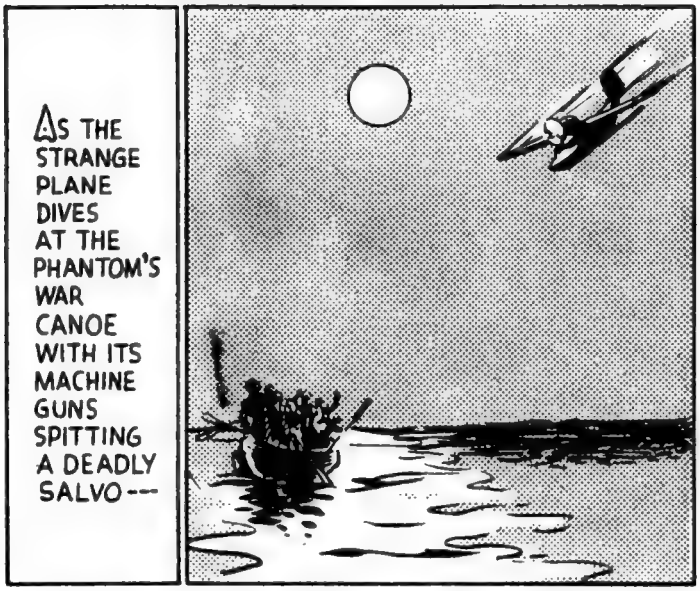

12-22
THE WAR CANOES GET UNDER WAY, MANNED BY GLIGOU'S FAMOUS PADDLERS, HEADED FOR THE MYSTERIOUS ISLE OF HERONS!


A PLANE OVERHEAD! APPROACHING US! CAN IT BE----!
AS THE PHANTOM'S WAR CANOE HEADS FOR THE ISLE OF HERONS, THE HIDE-OUT OF THE SKY BAND!

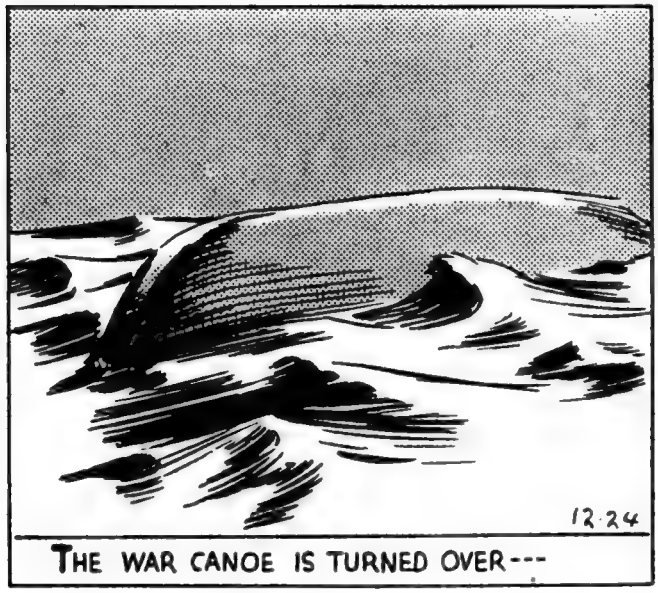
A WAR CANOE DOWN THERE, FILLED WITH NATIVES. THE IGNORANT FOOLS ARE HEADED FOR THE ISLE!
NONSENSE. HOW CAN THEY KNOW ABOUT THE ISLE? THEY'RE PROBABLY HEADED FOR THE FISHING GROUNDS.
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

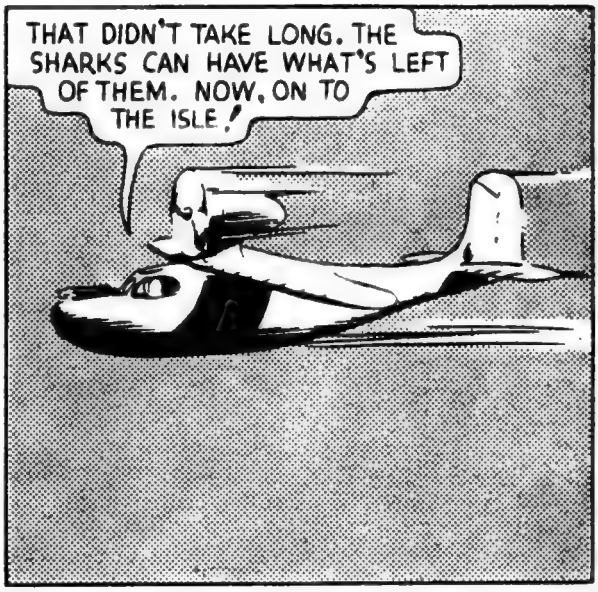
I'M IN COMMAND HERE. WE CAN TAKE NO CHANCE OF ACCIDENTAL DISCOVERY. THE CANOE MUST BE SUNK!
12 23

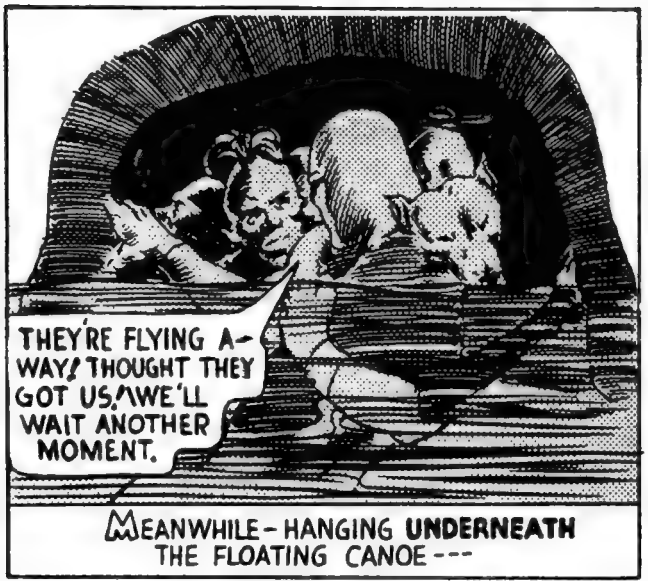

MACHINE GUNS IN READINESS, THE PLANE DIVES TOWARDS THE HELPLESS CANOE!

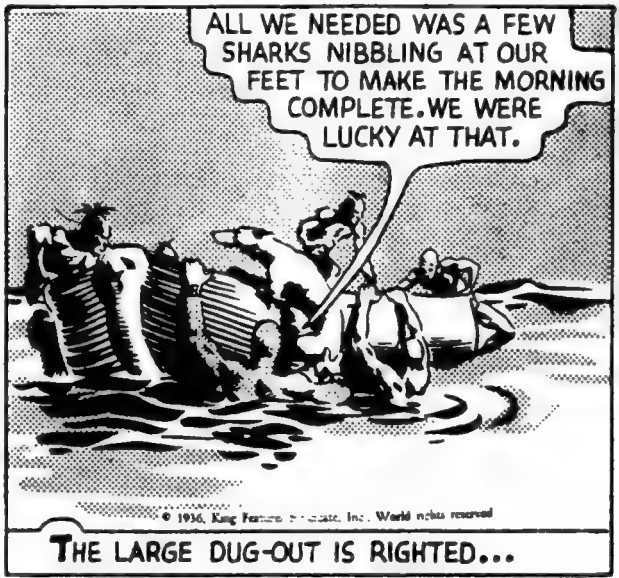

AS THE STRANGE PLANE DIVES AT THE PHANTOM'S WAR CANOE WITH ITS MACHINE GUNS SPITTING A DEADLY SALVO---

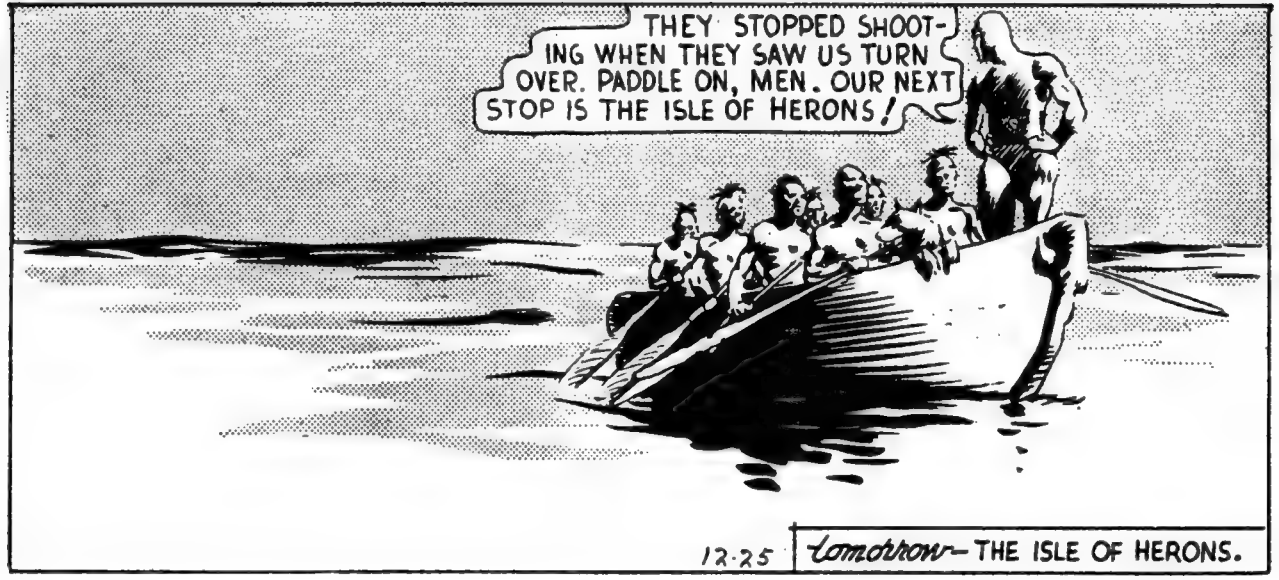
EVERYBODY OUT! INTO THE WATER!

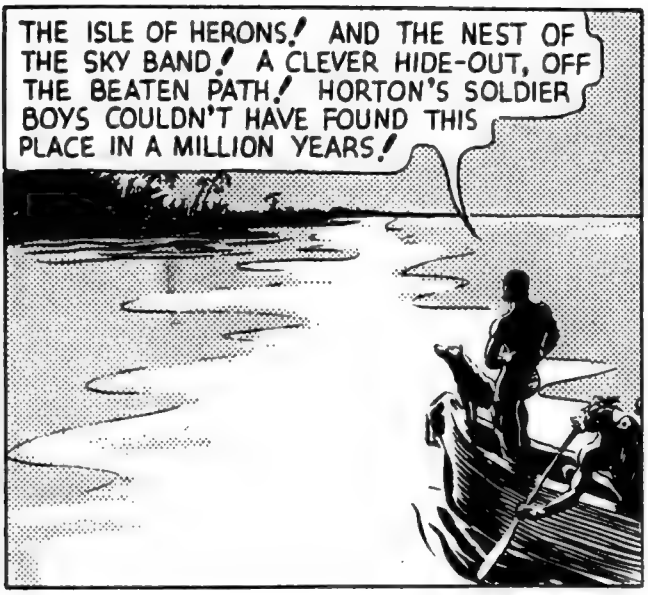

12-24
THE WAR CANOE IS TURNED OVER---


THAT DIDN'T TAKE LONG. THE SHARKS CAN HAVE WHAT'S LEFT OF THEM. NOW, ON TO THE ISLE!


THEY'RE FLYING A-WAY! THOUGHT THEY GOT US! WE'LL WAIT ANOTHER MOMENT.
MEANWHILE - HANGING UNDERNEATH THE FLOATING CANOE---

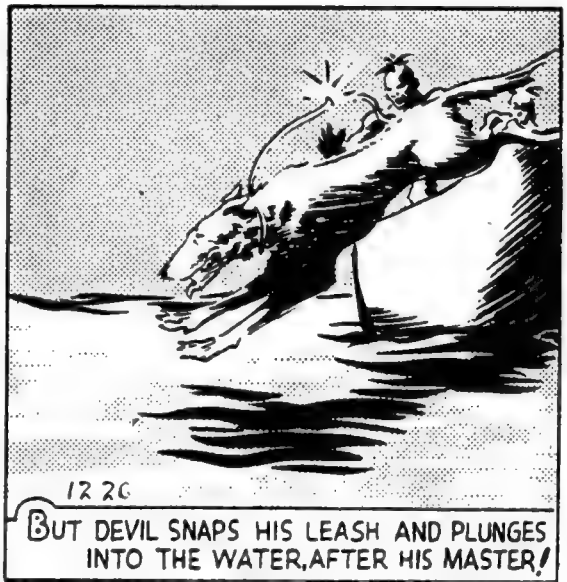

ALL WE NEEDED WAS A FEW SHARKS NIBBLING AT OUR FEET TO MAKE THE MORNING COMPLETE. WE WERE LUCKY AT THAT.
THE LARGE DUG-OUT IS RIGHTED...


THEY STOPPED SHOOTING WHEN THEY SAW US TURN OVER. PADDLE ON, MEN. OUR NEXT STOP IS THE ISLE OF HERONS!
12-25
tomorrow—THE ISLE OF HERONS.

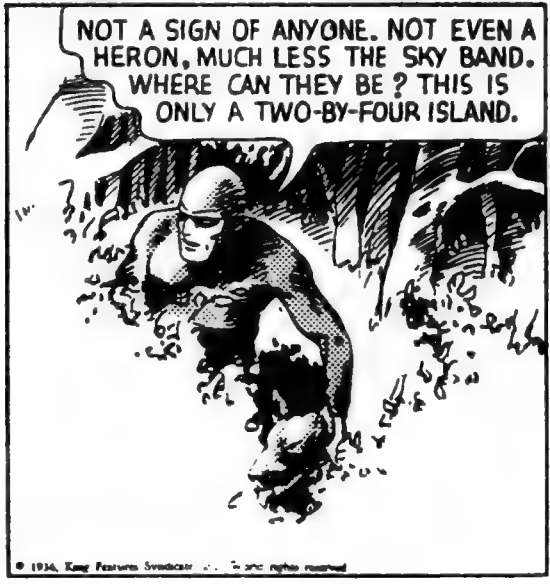

THE ISLE OF HERONS! AND THE NEST OF THE SKY BAND! A CLEVER HIDE-OUT, OFF THE BEATEN PATH! HORTON'S SOLDIER BOYS COULDN'T HAVE FOUND THIS PLACE IN A MILLION YEARS!

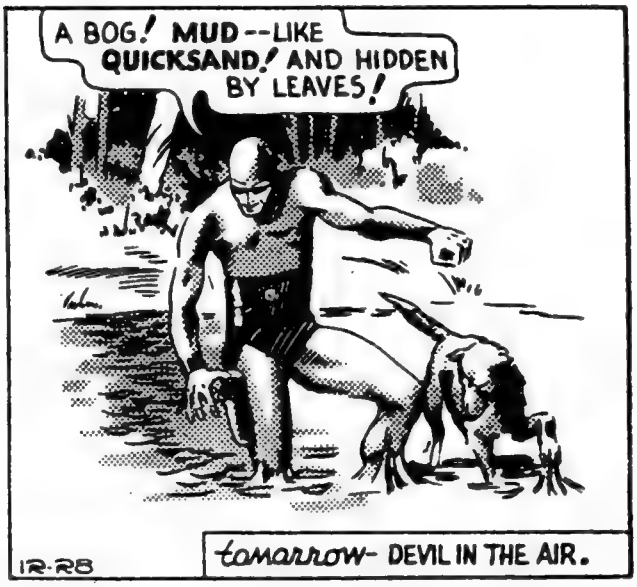
I'M GOING ON ALONE FROM HERE. I'LL HAVE MORE OF A CHANCE TO REACH THE ISLE UNSEEN. YOU ARE ALL BRAVE MEN. THE PHANTOM THANKS YOU.

I'LL SWIM IN FROM HERE. YOU TAKE DEVIL BACK TO THE MAINLAND WITH YOU. THIS IS NO PLACE FOR HIM.
© 1936 King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved.

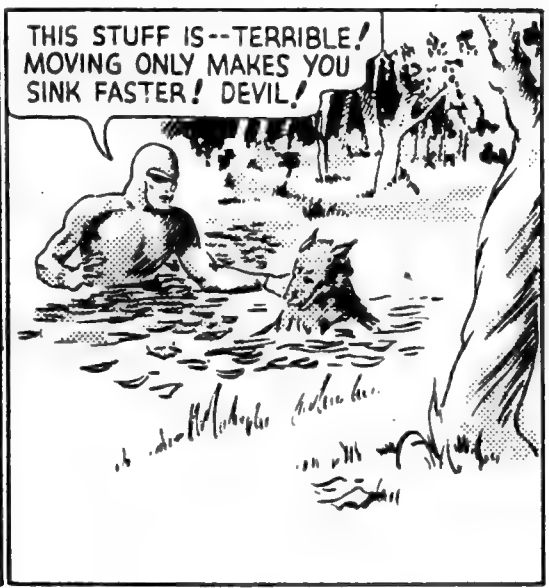

12 26
BUT DEVIL SNAPS HIS LEASH AND PLUNGES INTO THE WATER, AFTER HIS MASTER!

The PHANTOM REACHES THE ISLE OF HERONS: REPUTED HIDE-OUT OF THE MYSTERIOUS SKY BAND.

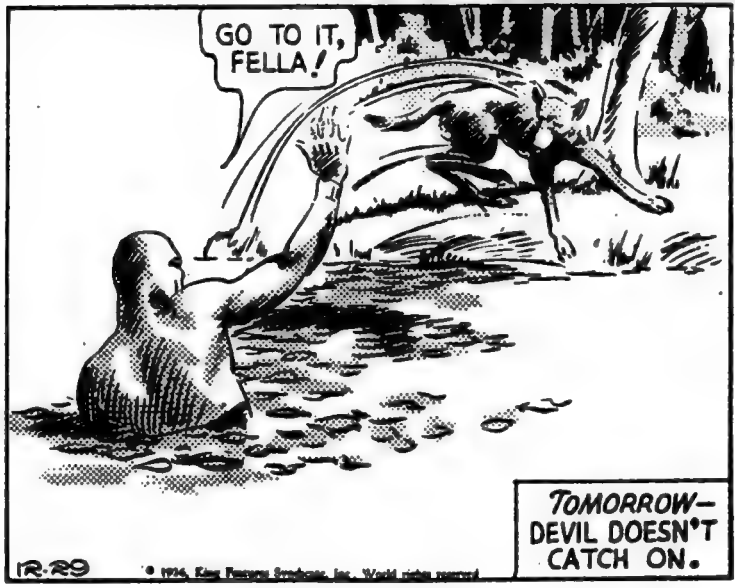




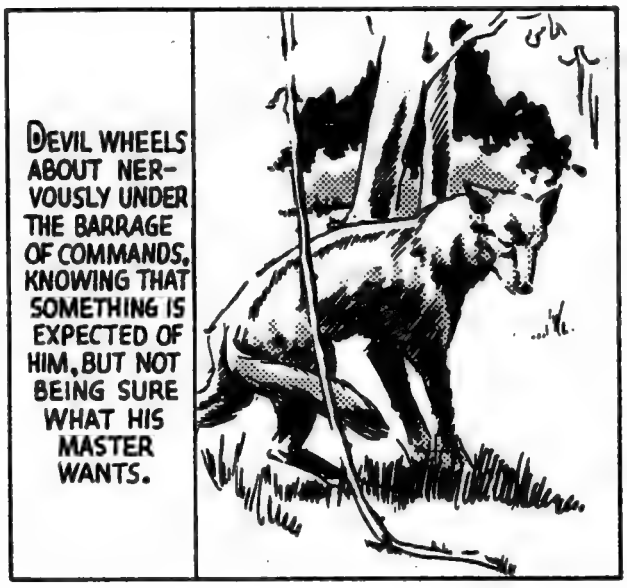
ON THE ISLE OF HERONS, THE PHANTOM IS BOGGED IN MUD THAT IS LIKE QUICK-SAND.



I CAN'T LAST LONG. NOW, IF ONLY DEVIL COULD PULL ME OUT! HMM, THIS STRIP OF BOG ISN'T VERY WIDE. MY ONLY CHANCE!
SINKING RAPIDLY, THE PHANTOM GETS AN IDEA!

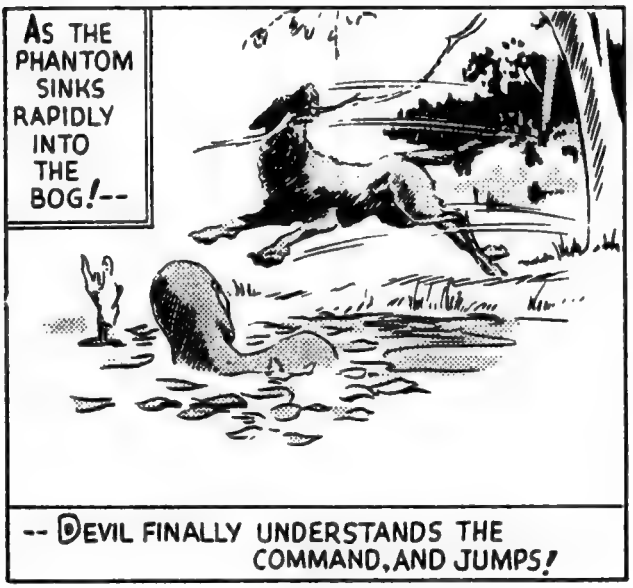

GO TO IT, FELLA!
TOMORROW— DEVIL DOESN'T CATCH ON.
12-29

DEVIL, OLD BOY. TAKE THE VINE IN YOUR MOUTH. NO, FELLA. THE VINE! NOT THAT. THE VINE!
SINKING RAPIDLY INTO THE MIRE, THE PHANTOM CALLS TO DEVIL....

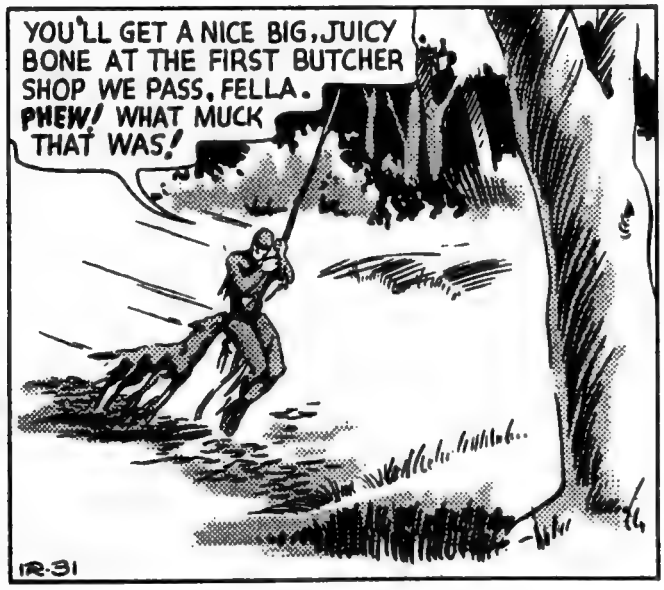

DEVIL WHEELS ABOUT NERVOUSLY UNDER THE BARRAGE OF COMMANDS, KNOWING THAT SOMETHING IS EXPECTED OF HIM, BUT NOT BEING SURE WHAT HIS MASTER WANTS.

GOOD BOY! THAT'S IT! GOOD FELLA. HOLD IT! HOLD IT! NOW COME TO ME. JUMP!
12-30

JUMP TO ME, DEVIL. JUMP! BRING IT TO ME!
DEVIL STARES UNCERTAINLY AT HIS MASTER, AS THE PHANTOM SLOWLY SINKS TO A HORRIBLE DOOM!

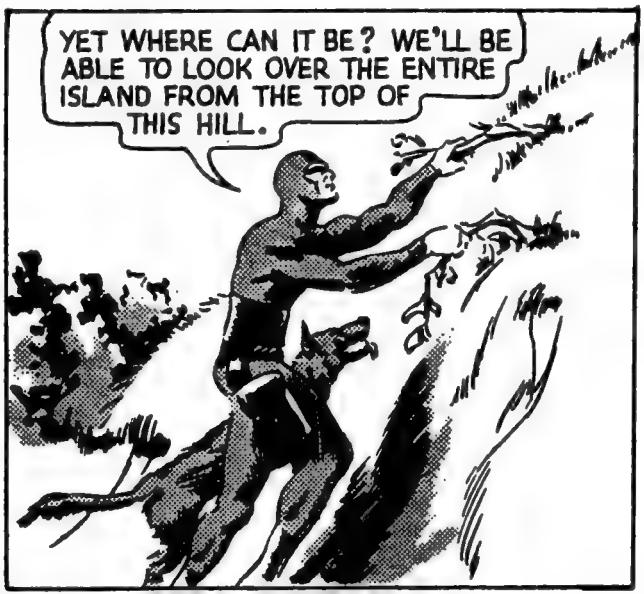

AS THE PHANTOM SINKS RAPIDLY INTO THE BOG!--
-- DEVIL FINALLY UNDERSTANDS THE COMMAND, AND JUMPS!

GOOD BOY, DEVIL. THE SUSPENSE WAS TERRIBLE. I THOUGHT YOU NEVER WOULD JUMP. HANG ON, FELLA. HERE WE GO!
© 1936, King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved

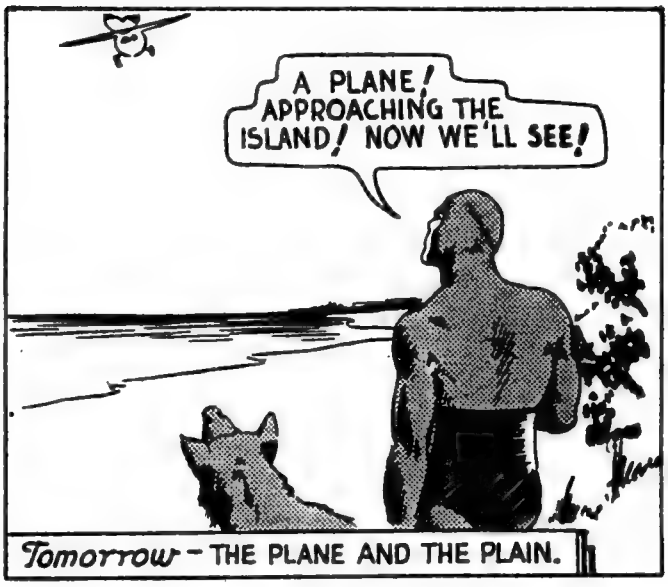

YOU'LL GET A NICE BIG, JUICY BONE AT THE FIRST BUTCHER SHOP WE PASS, FELLA. PHEW! WHAT MUCK THAT WAS!
12-31

LOOKS LIKE A PATH. WELL-COVERED WITH LEAVES AND TWIGS. IT'S AN ARTIFICIAL BOG, DEVIL! MADE BY THE SKY BAND, TO HOLD OFF INTRUDERS! WE'RE ON THE RIGHT TRACK!

WELL, WE'VE CROSSED THE ISLE OF HERONS. THERE'S THE OTHER SIDE. AND STILL NO SIGN OF THE SKY BAND. IF THIS IS THEIR BASE, THEY MUST HAVE HANGARS, LIVING QUARTERS,-AERIALS.

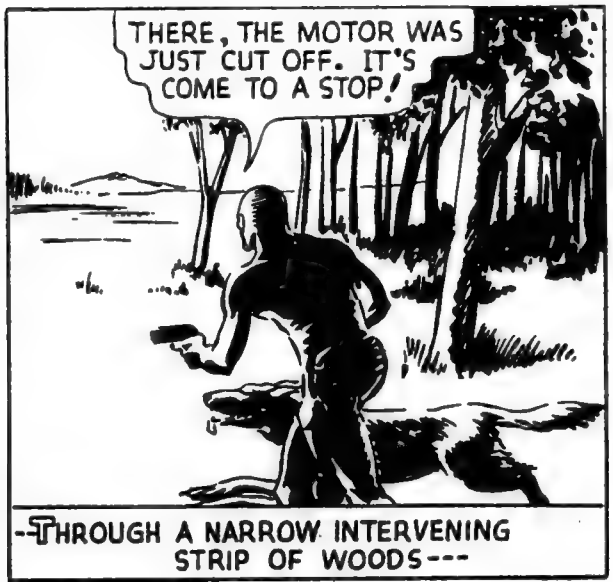

YET WHERE CAN IT BE? WE'LL BE ABLE TO LOOK OVER THE ENTIRE ISLAND FROM THE TOP OF THIS HILL.

THAT SMALL PLAIN BELOW IS THE ONLY POSSIBLE LANDING PLACE ON THE ISLAND. THERE'S NO SIGN OF ANYTHING ANYWHERE. MAYBE --- WHAT'S THAT!
Copr 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved. 1-1

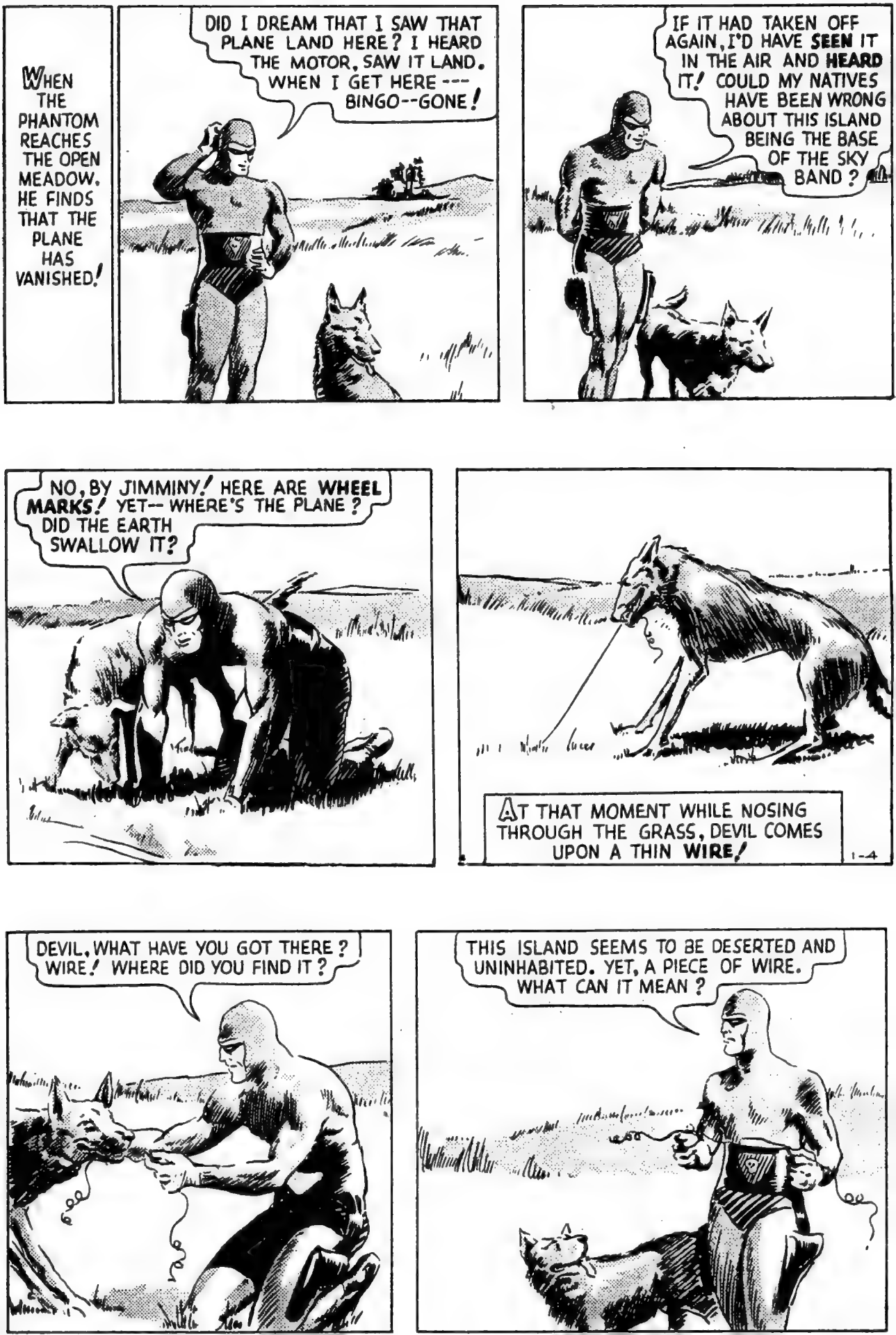

A PLANE! APPROACHING THE ISLAND! NOW WE'LL SEE!
Tomorrow - THE PLANE AND THE PLAIN.

IT'S LOWERING TO THE PLAIN, ALL RIGHT! WE'LL BE THERE WHEN IT LANDS!
THE PHANTOM WATCHES THE AIRPLANE LOWER TO THE ISLE OF HERONS!

WE'LL SOON LEARN THE MYSTERY OF THIS ISLAND. YOU CAN HEAR THE DRONE OF THE MOTOR, DEVIL.
The PHANTOM RACES DOWN THE WOODED SLOPE OF THE HILL---


THERE, THE MOTOR WAS JUST CUT OFF. IT'S COME TO A STOP!
-THROUGH A NARROW INTERVENING STRIP OF WOODS---

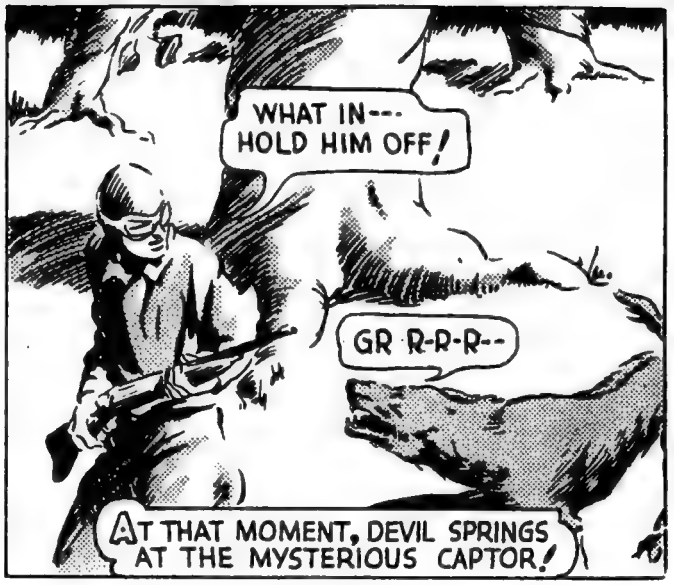
WHY--WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PLANE? IT'S--GONE! BUT I HEARD IT LAND HERE!
Copr 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved 1-R
--AND REACHING THE OPEN MEADOW, FINDS IT BARREN AND EMPTY!

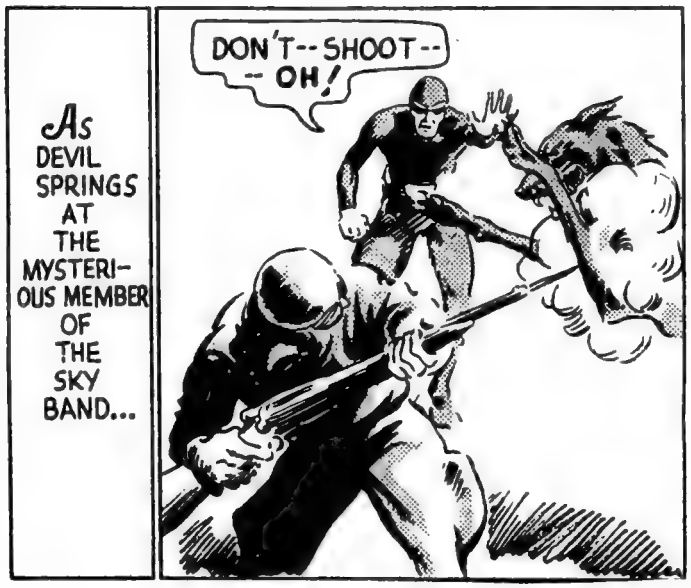

WHEN THE PHANTOM REACHES THE OPEN MEADOW, HE FINDS THAT THE PLANE HAS VANISHED!
DID I DREAM THAT I SAW THAT PLANE LAND HERE? I HEARD THE MOTOR, SAW IT LAND. WHEN I GET HERE --- BINGO--GONE!
IF IT HAD TAKEN OFF AGAIN, I'D HAVE SEEN IT IN THE AIR AND HEARD IT! COULD MY NATIVES HAVE BEEN WRONG ABOUT THIS ISLAND BEING THE BASE OF THE SKY BAND?
NO, BY JIMMINY! HERE ARE WHEEL MARKS! YET-- WHERE'S THE PLANE? DID THE EARTH SWALLOW IT?
AT THAT MOMENT WHILE NOSING THROUGH THE GRASS, DEVIL COMES UPON A THIN WIRE!
1-4
DEVIL, WHAT HAVE YOU GOT THERE? WIRE! WHERE DID YOU FIND IT?
THIS ISLAND SEEMS TO BE DESERTED AND UNINHABITED. YET, A PIECE OF WIRE. WHAT CAN IT MEAN?

AT THAT MOMENT, IN A NEARBY HIDDEN CHAMBER, A LIGHT SIGNAL BEGINS TO FLASH!
WIRE ALARM CIRCUIT BROKEN. WIRE ALARM CIRCUIT BROKEN. INTRUDER ON ISLE. INTRUDER ON ISLE. TRUNK GUARDS TAKE POST. TRUNK GUARDS TAKE POST.
Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved
1-5
WELL, DEVIL, WE'VE WALKED UP AND DOWN THIS ISLAND FOR HOURS. NOT A SIGN OF ANYTHING. YET, IF THIS IS THE AIRBASE OF THE SKY BAND, IT SHOULD BE FILLED WITH DOZENS OF PLANES--AND HUNDREDS OF MEN!
Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved
DON'T ASK ME WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT PLANE, FELLA. MAYBE I WAS JUST SEEING THINGS. I GUESS THIS PLACE WAS A FALSE LEAD. WE'LL HAVE TO GO BACK HOME AND START OVER AGAIN.
MEANWHILE, HORTON'S SOLDIER BOYS ARE SEARCHING FOR ME AND--WHAT'S THAT! A LIGHT!
I'M NOT SEEING THINGS THIS TIME! A FLASHING LIGHT! NOW WE'RE GETTING SOMEWHERE!
1-6
tomorrow
THE LIGHT THAT FAILED.

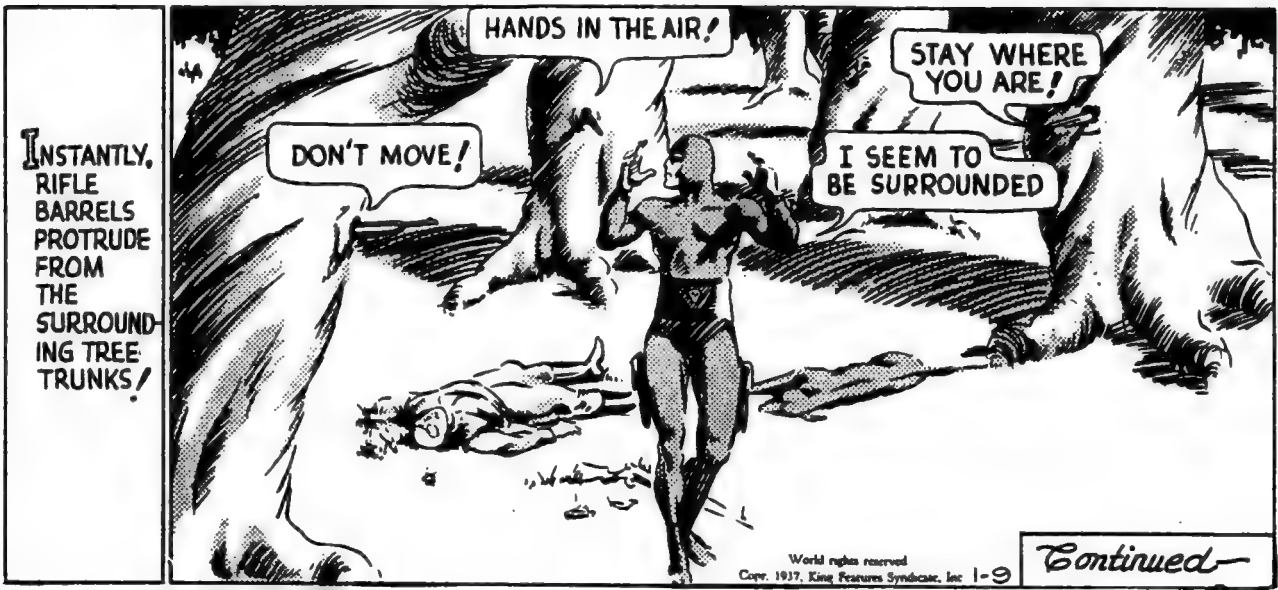
The PHANTOM SEES A LIGHT FLASHING IN THE WOODS AND ADVANCES TOWARDS IT.
THE LIGHT'S GONE! DEVIL, I COULD HAVE SWORN THE LIGHT CAME FROM THIS TREE! ARE MY EYES GOING BACK ON ME?
--OR AM I GOING SLIGHTLY DAFFY? VANISHING PLANES, LIGHTS THAT DISAPPEAR! WE'RE STICKING AROUND HERE UNTIL WE FIND WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!
PUT YOUR HANDS UP IN THE AIR--AND DON'T MOVE!
SUDDENLY, A RIFLE BARREL PROTRUDES FROM A KNOT-HOLE IN THE TREE TRUNK AND A VOICE IS HEARD!
GLADLY. IT'S A PLEASURE TO HEAR A VOICE AGAIN, BESIDES MY OWN. PLEASE DON'T DO ANY VANISHING ACTS UNTIL I GET A CHANCE TO SEE YOU.
TOMORROW-OUT OF THE TREE
ONE MOVE AND I HAVE ORDERS TO SHOOT YOU DOWN.
THAT'S QUITE ALL RIGHT, PAL. ORDERS ARE ORDERS. TELL ME ONE THING. ARE YOU OF THE SKY BAND?
THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO KNOW. THAT FLASHING LIGHT WAS A CLEVER STUNT. SORT OF A LURE, OR BAIT, TO BRING ME OVER THIS WAY, EH?
I AM

YOU SEEM TO KNOW ALL THE ANSWERS. REFRAIN FROM FURTHER TALK. YOU WILL ENTER THE ---
1-8
Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved


WHAT IN--- HOLD HIM OFF!
GR R-R-R--
AT THAT MOMENT, DEVIL SPRINGS AT THE MYSTERIOUS CAPTOR!


AS DEVIL SPRINGS AT THE MYSTERIOUS MEMBER OF THE SKY BAND...
DON'T-- SHOOT-- -- OH!

SHOOT DEVIL, WILL YOU?
WITH THE ROAR OF THE RIFLE IN HIS EARS, THE PHANTOM SWINGS FURIOUSLY AT HIS CAPTOR---

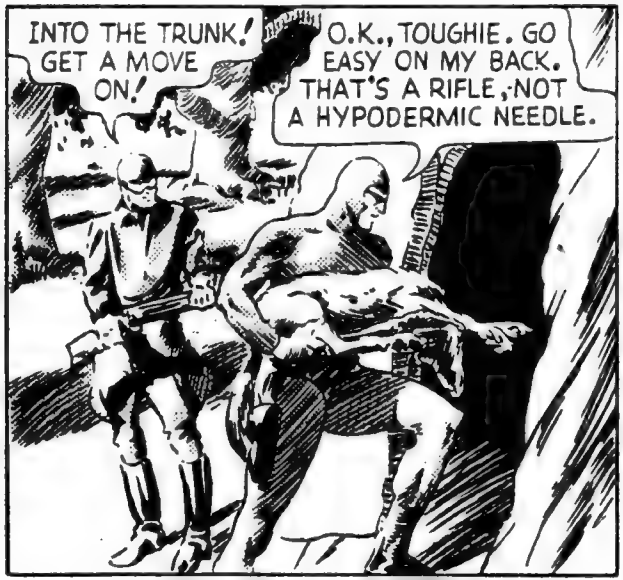

INSTANTLY, RIFLE BARRELS PROTRUDE FROM THE SURROUNDING TREE TRUNKS!
HANDS IN THE AIR!
DON'T MOVE!
STAY WHERE YOU ARE!
I SEEM TO BE SURROUNDED
World rights reserved
Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc 1-9
Continued

DEVIL IS WOUNDED BY A SKY BAND BULLET AS THE PHANTOM'S CAPTORS STEP OUT OF THEIR TREE TRUNK HIDING-PLACES!

DEVIL, OLD FELLA, ARE YOU HURT? JUST LIE STILL, BOY. NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF.

LEAVE THE ANIMAL AND ENTER THAT TREE TRUNK!

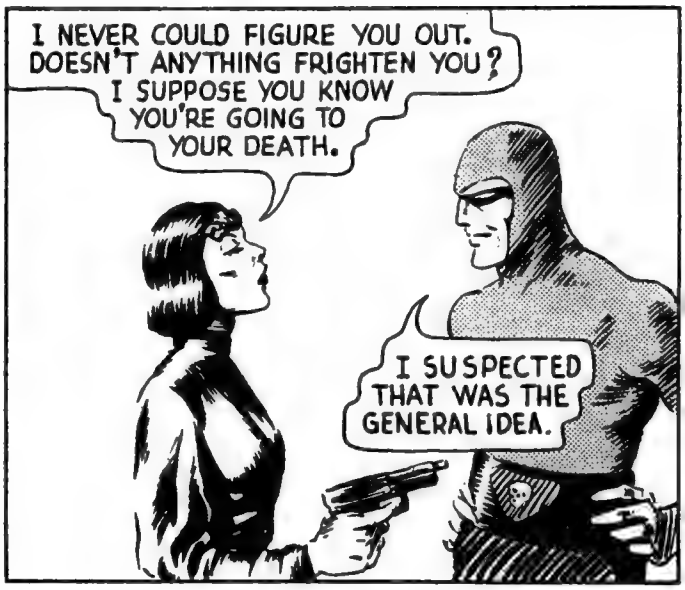
Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved.



WE SHALL ATTEND TO THE ANIMAL. YOU WILL PROCEED AHEAD.
THANKS. DO A GOOD JOB ON DEVIL AND I'LL REMEMBER YOU IN MY WILL.
Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

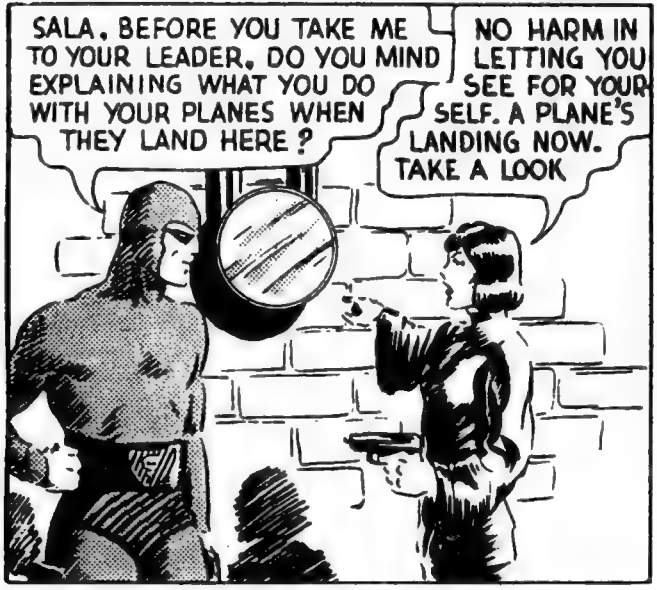
SO YOU FOUND YOUR WAY HERE, AS I KNEW YOU WOULD!
SALA!
1-12

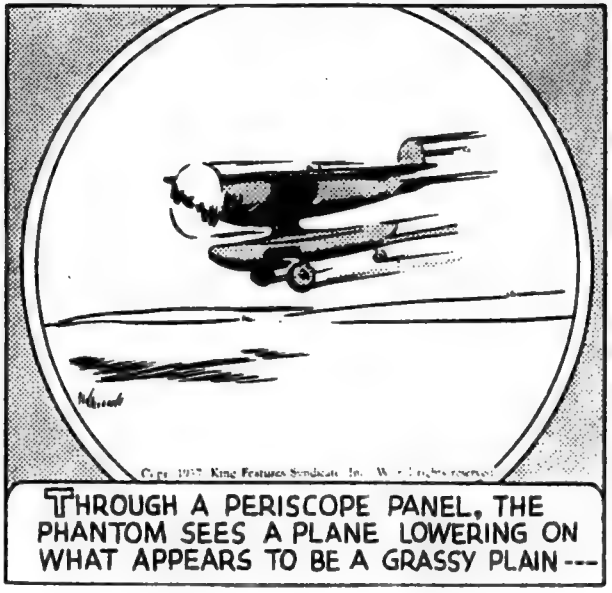
I LAUGHED WHEN I HEARD THAT THE MILITARY BOYS WERE HOLDING YOU FOR HELPING ME ESCAPE!
I'M GLAD YOU ENJOYED YOURSELF. LAUGHTER KEEPS THE WRINKLES OUT OF A GIRL'S FACE.

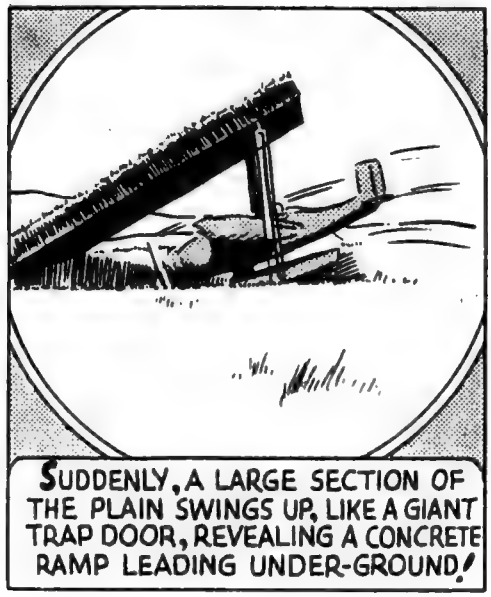

I NEVER COULD FIGURE YOU OUT. DOESN'T ANYTHING FRIGHTEN YOU? I SUPPOSE YOU KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO YOUR DEATH.
I SUSPECTED THAT WAS THE GENERAL IDEA.

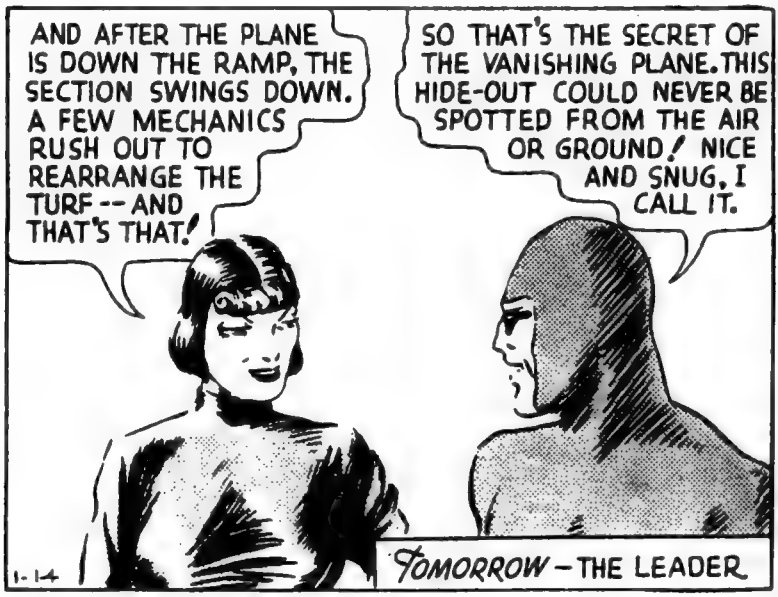
WHAT'S THIS? THE KISS OF DEATH?
Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved
1-13

NO, JUST TO SHOW YOU THAT MY HEART'S IN THE RIGHT PLACE.
YOUR PISTOL SEEMS TO BE IN THE RIGHT PLACE, TOO.
tomorrow—SECRET OF THE RAMP

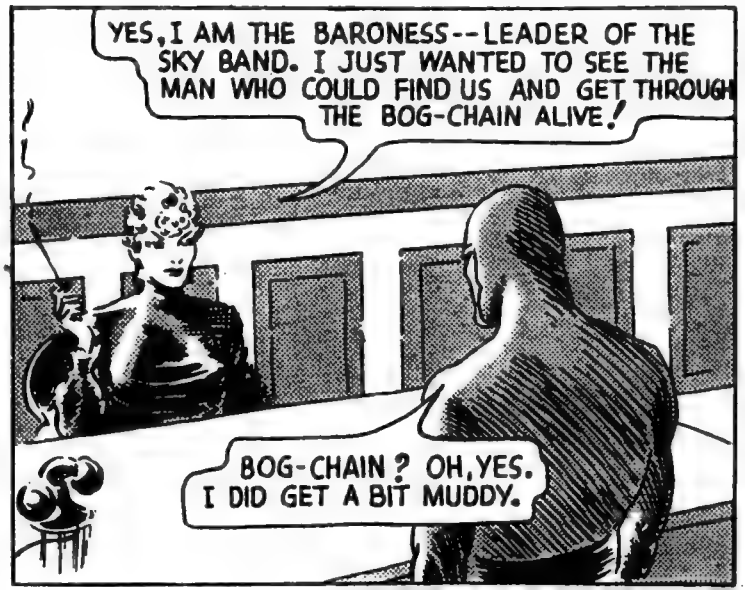

SALA, BEFORE YOU TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADER, DO YOU MIND EXPLAINING WHAT YOU DO WITH YOUR PLANES WHEN THEY LAND HERE?
NO HARM IN LETTING YOU SEE FOR YOURSELF. A PLANE'S LANDING NOW. TAKE A LOOK

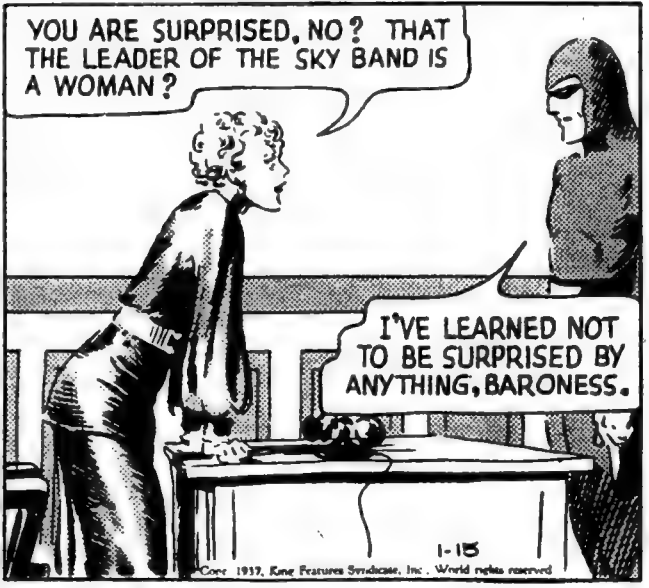

THROUGH A PERISCOPE PANEL, THE PHANTOM SEES A PLANE LOWERING ON WHAT APPEARS TO BE A GRASSY PLAIN---


SUDDENLY, A LARGE SECTION OF THE PLAIN SWINGS UP, LIKE A GIANT TRAP DOOR, REVEALING A CONCRETE RAMP LEADING UNDER-GROUND!

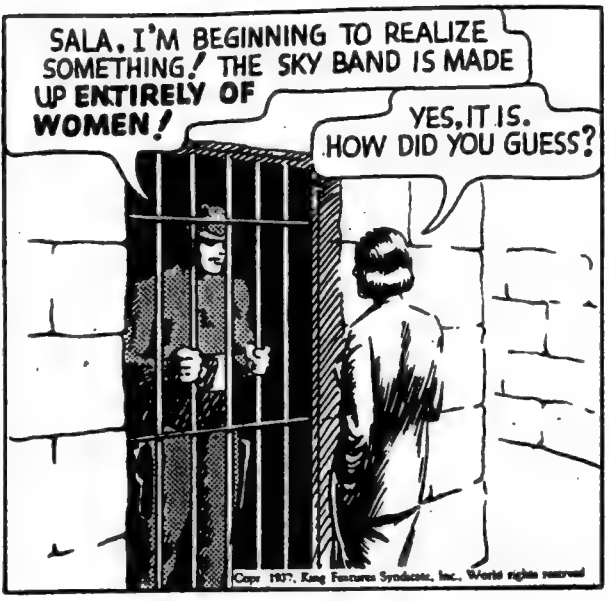

AND AFTER THE PLANE IS DOWN THE RAMP, THE SECTION SWINGS DOWN. A FEW MECHANICS RUSH OUT TO REARRANGE THE TURF -- AND THAT'S THAT!
SO THAT'S THE SECRET OF THE VANISHING PLANE. THIS HIDE-OUT COULD NEVER BE SPOTTED FROM THE AIR OR GROUND! NICE AND SNUG, I CALL IT.
1-14
TOMORROW - THE LEADER

SO THIS IS THE OFFICE OF THE LEADER OF THE SKY BAND! WHAT SORT OF A GENT IS HE?
YOU CAN SEE FOR YOURSELF.


YES, I AM THE BARONESS--LEADER OF THE SKY BAND. I JUST WANTED TO SEE THE MAN WHO COULD FIND US AND GET THROUGH THE BOG-CHAIN ALIVE!
BOG-CHAIN? OH, YES. I DID GET A BIT MUDDY.

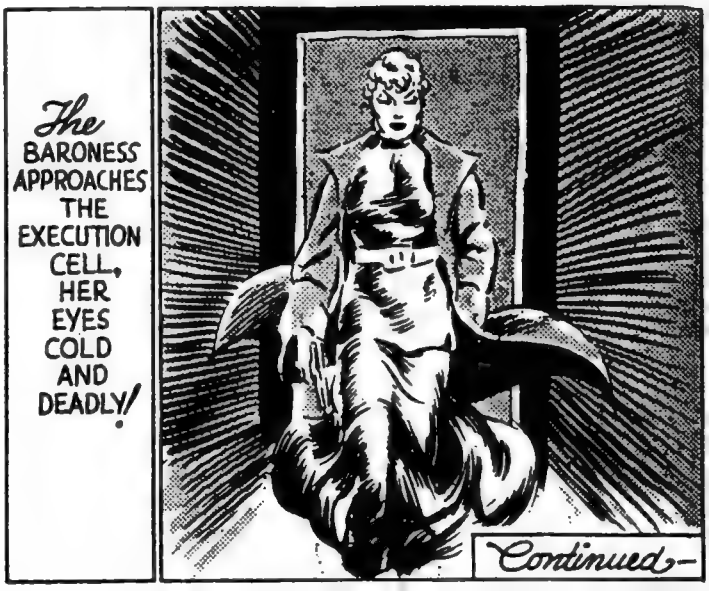

YOU ARE SURPRISED, NO? THAT THE LEADER OF THE SKY BAND IS A WOMAN?
I'VE LEARNED NOT TO BE SURPRISED BY ANYTHING, BARONESS.
1-15
Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

THEN YOU WON'T BE SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT YOU MUST DIE AT ONCE. TAKE HIM TO THE EXECUTION CELL, SALA. I WILL ATTEND HIM PERSONALLY!


SALA, I'M BEGINNING TO REALIZE SOMETHING! THE SKY BAND IS MADE UP ENTIRELY OF WOMEN!
YES, IT IS. HOW DID YOU GUESS?
Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

WHEN THEY CAPTURED ME, THEIR OUTFITS DISGUISED THEM, BUT THEY COULDN'T DISGUISE THEIR VOICES.
YES--THE--THE BARONESS--IS--COMING. SOMEHOW--I WISH I COULD HELP YOU.

BUT I--CAN'T. I'M THANKFUL FOR ONE THING. SHE DOES NOT BELIEVE IN SLOW TORTURE. ONE BULLET IS ALL. HERE--SHE COMES. GOODBYE.
1-16

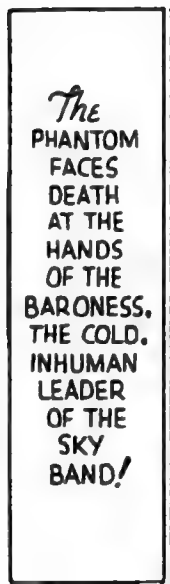

The BARONESS APPROACHES THE EXECUTION CELL, HER EYES COLD AND DEADLY!
Continued--

LEAVE, SALA. I WISH TO SPEAK WITH THIS MAN FOR A FEW MOMENTS BEFORE I KILL HIM.
Y-YES, BARONESS.
1-18

YOU'VE GOT REAL NERVE, COMING IN HERE ALONE, BARONESS.
I FEAR NO MAN. BESIDES, MY GUN HAS A HAIR-TRIGGER AND IS VERY MUCH LOADED!

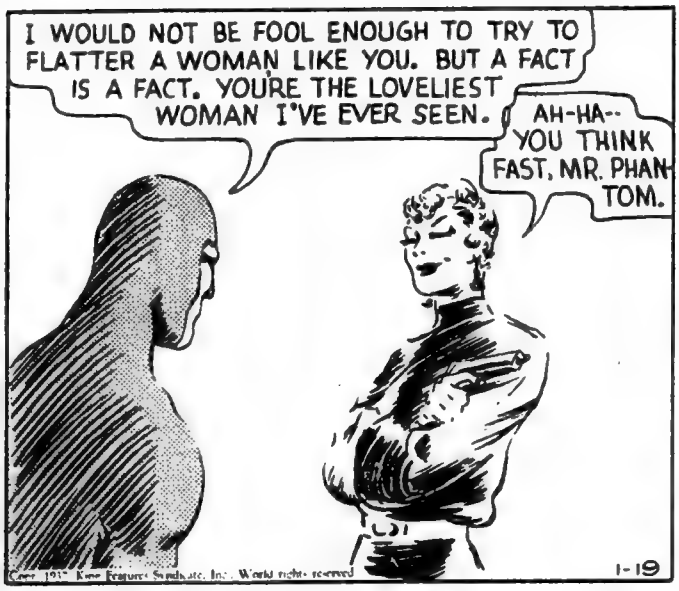
BEFORE YOU DIE, YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT WE ARE PLANNING ANOTHER AIR BASE LIKE THIS ON YOUR OWN ISLAND OF LUNTOK. YOU MEN ARE NO MATCH FOR US. WE OUTWIT YOU EVERY TIME!

YOU AMAZE ME! YOU'RE AS COOL AS A CUCUMBER. AND YET, WITHIN A MOMENT, YOU PLAN TO KILL ME IN COLD-BLOOD!
WHY SHOULD I BE NERVOUS? IT'S YOUR LIFE, NOT MINE!


The PHANTOM FACES DEATH AT THE HANDS OF THE BARONESS, THE COLD, INHUMAN LEADER OF THE SKY BAND!

I'M AMAZED! A BEAUTIFUL, INTELLIGENT WOMAN LIKE YOURSELF, THE HEAD OF THE SKY BAND.
I WARN YOU. FLATTERY WILL NOT SAVE YOU! I HAVE NOTHING AGAINST YOU, PERSONALLY.

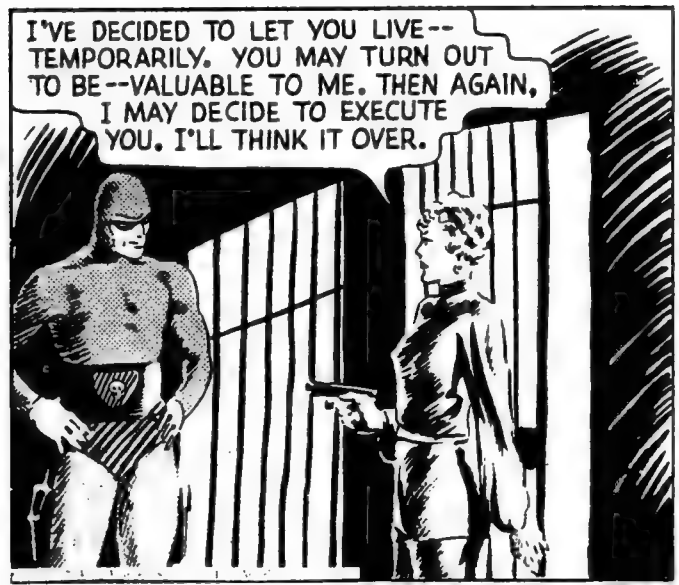
BUT YOU MUST DIE, AS ALL DO, WHO BLUNDER UPON OUR SECRET HIDING-PLACE. WHAT IS MORE, I REGARD YOU AS THE MOST DANGEROUS MAN ON EARTH-- FOR OUR CAUSE!


I WOULD NOT BE FOOL ENOUGH TO TRY TO FLATTER A WOMAN LIKE YOU. BUT A FACT IS A FACT. YOU'RE THE LOVELIEST WOMAN I'VE EVER SEEN.
AH-HA-- YOU THINK FAST, MR. PHANTOM.
1-19

BUT THIS TROPICAL SUN IS JUST RUINING MY SKIN AND THE DAMP SEA AIR IS MAKING A MESS OF MY HAIR. I REALLY HAVE NT HAD A PERMANENT OR A FACIAL IN---YEARS.

IF YOU WERE A MAN, I'D BE AT YOUR THROAT, REGARDLESS OF THAT GUN. AS IT IS, YOU'RE A LOVELY WOMAN WHOM I COULDN'T HARM IF I HAD THE CHANCE.
REALLY?

I WISH I'D MET YOU UNDER DIFFERENT CIRCUMSTANCES. YOU THINK LIKE I DO. I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU IN ACTION. SOMEDAY YOU'LL BE EMPRESS OF THE AIR!
YOU AREN'T A MIND-READER, BY ANY CHANCE?
1-20


I'VE DECIDED TO LET YOU LIVE-- TEMPORARILY. YOU MAY TURN OUT TO BE--VALUABLE TO ME. THEN AGAIN, I MAY DECIDE TO EXECUTE YOU. I'LL THINK IT OVER.

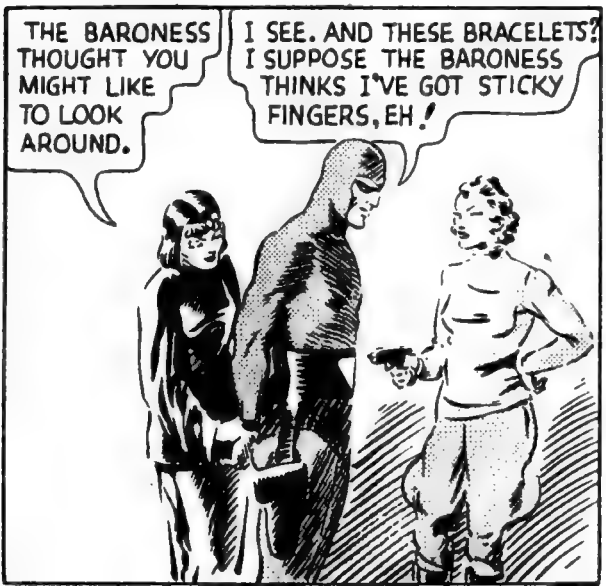
PHEW-- PLAYING ROMEO TO A MAD TIGRESS! BUT I HAD TO TALK MYSELF OUT OF THAT! IT WAS THE ONLY WAY!
AND AFTER THE BARONESS LEAVES THE CELL--

YOU--ARE GOING TO LET HIM--LIVE?
I DON'T KNOW, SALA. OF COURSE, I'VE NEVER BELIEVED IN THE LEGEND OF THE PHANTOM--THE IMMORTAL PART-- BUT HE IS A MOST UNUSUAL MAN.

I'VE NEVER MET A MAN LIKE THAT BEFORE. HE WAS COOL UNDER MY GUN. HE DIDN'T TRY TO PLEAD FOR HIS LIFE. HE ACTED AS IF HE WERE AT AN AFTERNOON TEA.

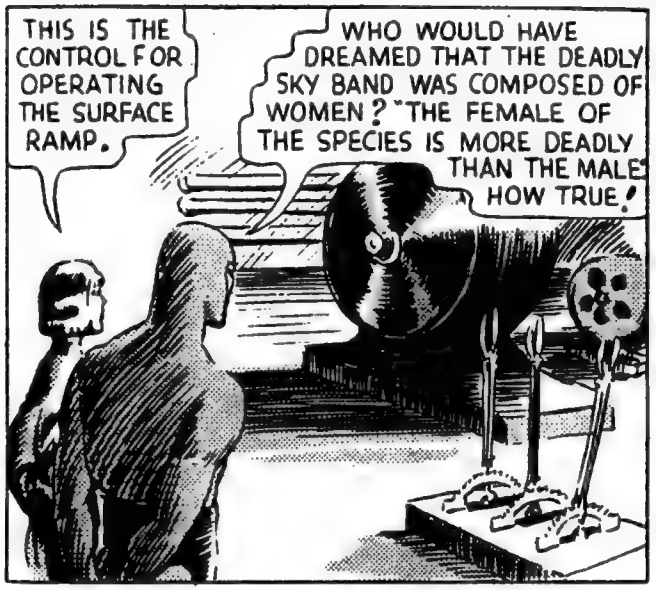
IN THE YEARS THAT I'VE SPENT BUILDING UP THE SKY BAND, I'VE FORGOTTEN I'M A **WOMAN.** THIS MAN, THIS PHANTOM, IS NOT LIKE OTHER MEN.
YES--HE IS DIFFERENT.

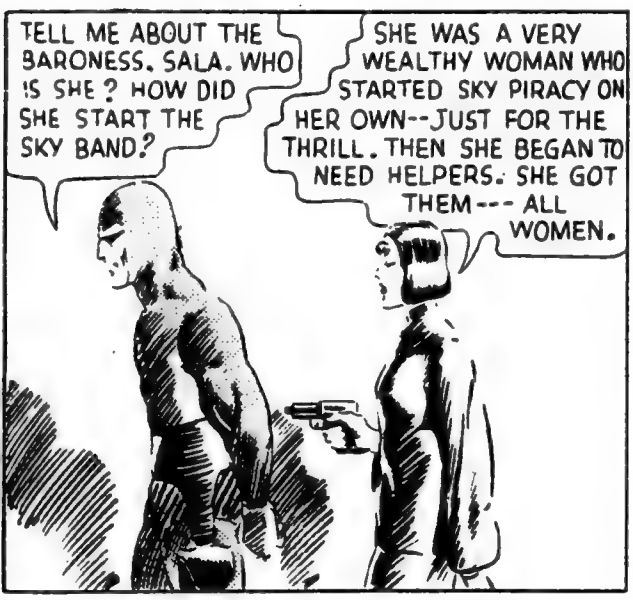
YES---HE INTERESTS ME---GREATLY.
TOMORROW—INSPECTION TOUR


THE BARONESS THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO LOOK AROUND.
I SEE. AND THESE BRACELETS? I SUPPOSE THE BARONESS THINKS I'VE GOT STICKY FINGERS, EH!

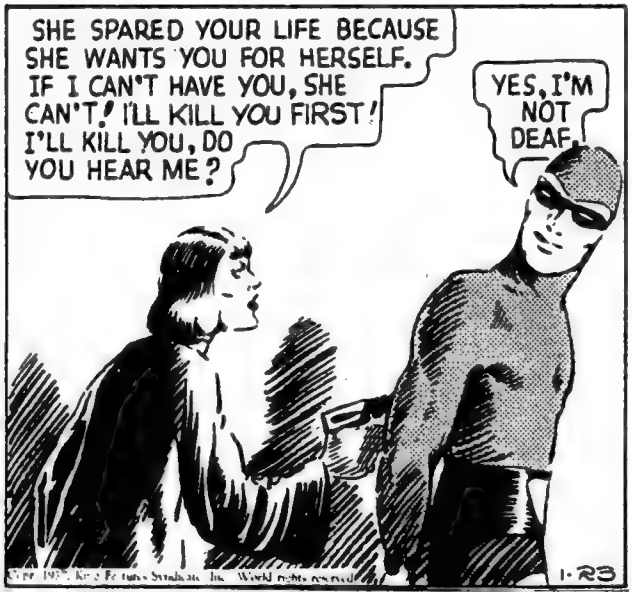
THESE ARE OUR UNDERGROUND HANGARS. AS YOU CAN SEE, THE MECHANICS, AS WELL AS THE PILOTS, ARE ALL WOMEN.

HERE WE GET REPORTS ON MOVEMENTS OF PLANES FROM OUR SECRET OFFICES IN EVERY MAJOR SEA-COAST CITY IN THE ORIENT.
1-22


THIS IS THE CONTROL FOR OPERATING THE SURFACE RAMP.
WHO WOULD HAVE DREAMED THAT THE DEADLY SKY BAND WAS COMPOSED OF WOMEN? "THE FEMALE OF THE SPECIES IS MORE DEADLY THAN THE MALE"
HOW TRUE!


TELL ME ABOUT THE BARONESS. SALA. WHO IS SHE? HOW DID SHE START THE SKY BAND?
SHE WAS A VERY WEALTHY WOMAN WHO STARTED SKY PIRACY ON HER OWN--JUST FOR THE THRILL. THEN SHE BEGAN TO NEED HELPERS. SHE GOT THEM--- ALL WOMEN.

SOON IT TURNED INTO A BIG BUSINESS. SECRET OFFICES, LANDING-FIELDS, WHOLE-SALE BRIBERY---ARE YOU REALLY INTERESTED IN HER, OR ARE YOU PLAYING A GAME?
NOT JEALOUS, SALA?


SHE SPARED YOUR LIFE BECAUSE SHE WANTS YOU FOR HERSELF. IF I CAN'T HAVE YOU, SHE CAN'T! I'LL KILL YOU FIRST! I'LL KILL YOU, DO YOU HEAR ME?
YES, I'M NOT DEAF.
1-23

YOU AND THE BARONESS ARE A PAIR OF NICE, SWEET GIRLS. IF SHE DOESN'T SHOOT ME, YOU WILL. I'M IN BETWEEN TWO FIRES

ADMIT IT! YOU'RE NOT IN LOVE WITH THE BARONESS! YOU'RE JUST PLAYING A GAME, WAITING FOR A CHANCE TO ESCAPE!
YOU DON'T EXPECT ME TO DENY THAT, DO YOU?
Copr. 193?, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

THIS IS THE TIGHTEST SPOT I'VE EVER BEEN IN. YOU'RE ALL WOMEN HERE--AND I COULDN'T SLUG A WOMAN IF I WANTED TO. NATURALLY, I WANT TO SAVE MY OWN LIFE.

AT LEAST, YOU'RE FRANK. AND YOU'RE PLAYING THE SAME GAME WITH ME, AREN'T YOU?
NOW WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO THAT IF THE CHARMING LADY IN QUESTION WAS AIMING A PISTOL AT YOUR RIBS?
1-25

YOU'VE GOT THE NERVE OF A BRASS MONKEY! BUT I CAN'T HELP BEING A FOOL ABOUT YOU--EVEN IF IT IS FLIRTING WITH SUICIDE!
TOMORROW--THE BARONESS

YES, I SENT FOR YOU. WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING?
ON AN INSPECTION TOUR WITH SALA. YOU'VE CERTAINLY GOT A NEAT HIDE-OUT HERE, BARONESS.
1-26

HMM--GLAD YOU APPROVE! WITH SALA, EH? SHE'S RATHER A VULGAR, IMPULSIVE CREATURE, ALTHOUGH SHE IS MY MOST DARING PILOT. I SUPPOSE MEN FIND HER ATTRACTIVE!

DO YOU?
I DARESAY, SHE'S ATTRACTIVE. I REALLY HADN'T NOTICED HER.
Copr. 1937 King Features Syndicate Inc. World rights reserved

I SEE. YOU REALIZE, OF COURSE, THAT IT'S JUST MY LITTLE WHIM THAT KEEPS YOU ALIVE. YOU WON'T FORGET THAT, WILL YOU?
NO, BARONESS, I HAVE AN EXCELLENT MEMORY.
Tomorrow—SALA SNOOPS

YOU SAID YOU'D LIKE TO SEE ME IN ACTION. WE HAVE INFORMATION THAT THE CALCUTTA CLIPPER FLIES WITH A SMALL PACKET OF BLACK PEARLS TOMORROW. YOU SHALL FLY WITH US.

I'M PERSONALLY LEADING THIS FLIGHT. YOU'LL SEE FOR YOURSELF WHY THE SKY BAND NEVER FAILS.
I CAN SEE THAT--BY JUST LOOKING AT YOU.

IT'S BEEN--YEARS--SINCE I'VE KISSED A MAN.
YOU DON'T SEEM TO HAVE--LOST YOUR TOUCH.
Copr. 1937 King Features Syndicate Inc. World rights reserved

SALA, FURIOUS, WATCHES THE KISS!
1-27

SO!

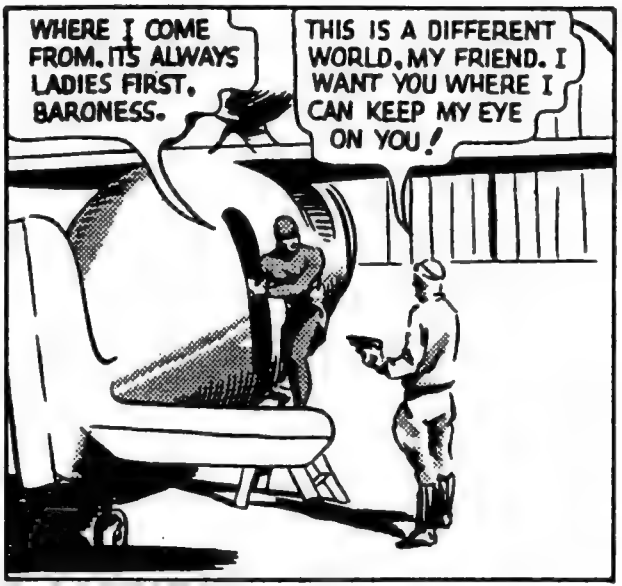
YOU--YOU--I SAW YOU KISS HER! DON'T DENY IT!
DO WE HAVE TO GO OVER ALL THAT AGAIN? I'D KISS A RATTLESNAKE IF THAT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO KEEP FROM GETTING STUNG!
1-28

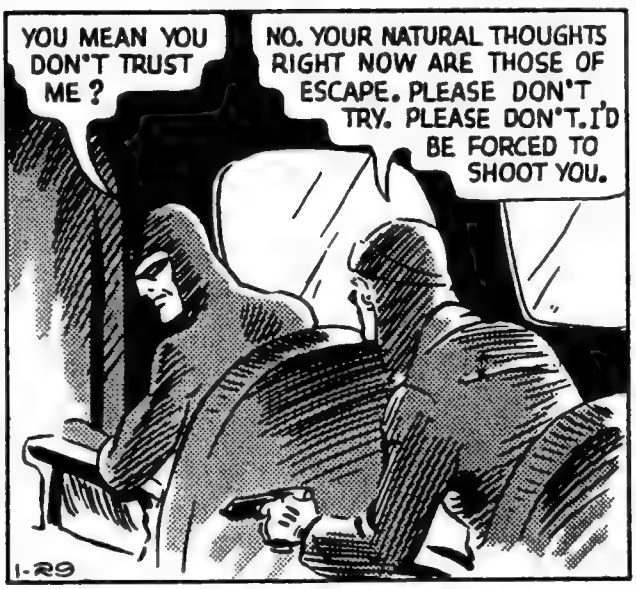
AND--I SUPPOSE YOU'D KISS ME--ON THE SAME PRINCIPLE.
NO, NOT EXACTLY. YOU SEE, THE BARONESS IS IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT RIGHT NOW AND YOU'RE NOT, MY LITTLE SALA.

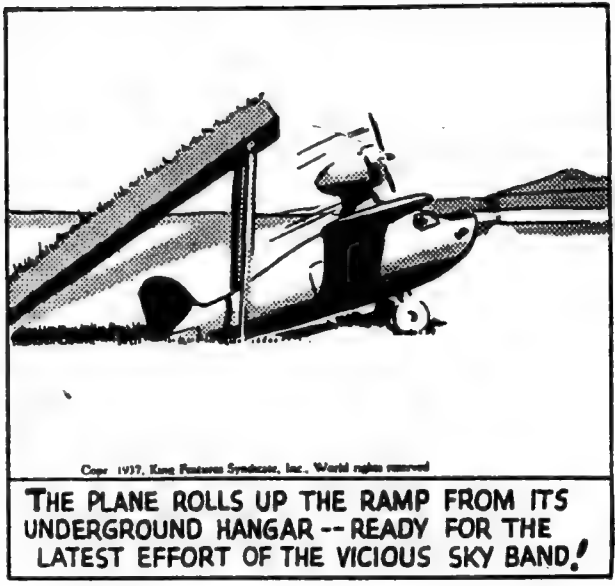
DONT "LITTLE SALA" ME! YOU'RE DANGEROUS TO THE SKY BAND! IF WE LET YOU LIVE, YOU'LL DESTROY ALL OF US! THAT'S ALL YOU CARE ABOUT! AND I KNOW THE BARONESS FEELS THE SAME WAY I DO!

AND YET WE'RE BOTH FOOLS ENOUGH TO LET YOU LIVE--AND FOR THE SAME REASON! AND DON'T GLOAT OR I'LL SLAP YOUR FACE!

OUR LATEST REPORTS SAY THAT THE CLIPPER LEAVES CALCUTTA AT NOON, FLIES COASTWISE TO BASSEIN AND THEN ACROSS THE MAINLAND TO RANGOON.
GOOD! THEN WE STRIKE OVER OPEN WATER AT BASSEIN!


WHERE I COME FROM, ITS ALWAYS LADIES FIRST, BARONESS.
THIS IS A DIFFERENT WORLD, MY FRIEND. I WANT YOU WHERE I CAN KEEP MY EYE ON YOU!

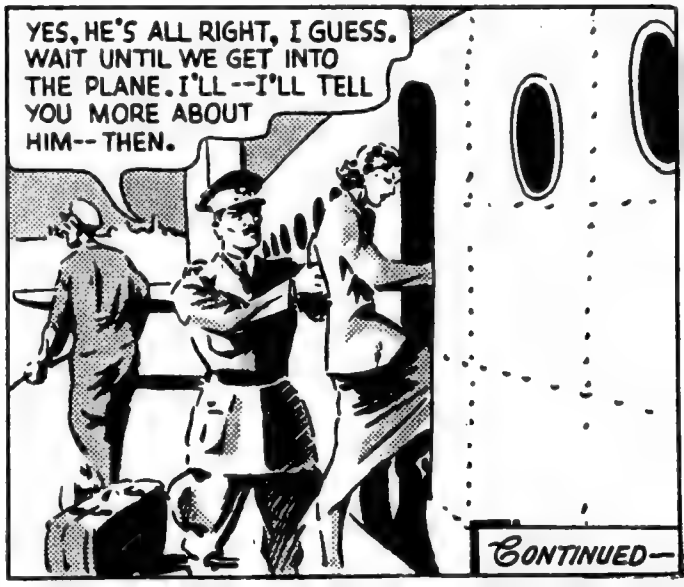

YOU MEAN YOU DON'T TRUST ME?
NO. YOUR NATURAL THOUGHTS RIGHT NOW ARE THOSE OF ESCAPE. PLEASE DON'T TRY. PLEASE DON'T. I'D BE FORCED TO SHOOT YOU.
1-29


Copr 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved
THE PLANE ROLLS UP THE RAMP FROM ITS UNDERGROUND HANGAR -- READY FOR THE LATEST EFFORT OF THE VICIOUS SKY BAND!

AT THE AIRPORT ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF CALCUTTA.
DIANA PALMER! I GOT YOUR WIRE. WHAT IN THE WORLD BRINGS YOU HERE?
BECAUSE I WANTED TO SEE YOU, CAPTAIN MELVILLE HORTON.

I ONLY WISH THAT WAS THE REAL REASON. I ARRANGED PASSAGE ON THE CLIPPER, AS YOU REQUESTED, AND I'M GOING WITH YOU.
HOW NICE MEL. TELL ME -- TELL ME ABOUT HIM. WHERE IS HE?

I WISH YOU WOULDN'T MAKE THIS FLIGHT, DIANA. THE SKY BAND HAS BEEN GIVING US NIGHTMARES IN THESE PARTS.
MEL, YOU DIDN'T ANSWER MY QUESTION. I'VE COME ALL THE WAY FROM AMERICA TO SEE HIM. HE'S -- HE'S ALLRIGHT, ISN'T HE?
Copr 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved
1-30


YES, HE'S ALL RIGHT, I GUESS. WAIT UNTIL WE GET INTO THE PLANE. I'LL -- I'LL TELL YOU MORE ABOUT HIM -- THEN.
CONTINUED—

I HATED TO TELL YOU THIS, DIANA, BECAUSE I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT HIM, BUT---
YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT HE'S ONE OF THOSE SKY PIRATES? DON'T BE SILLY, MEL.
CAPTAIN HORTON TELLS DIANA THAT THE PHANTOM IS EITHER A MEMBER OR LEADER OF THE SKY BAND.

BUT HE HELPED SALA ESCAPE, WHO ADMITTED SHE WAS A MEMBER OF THE BAND. THEN WHEN WE PUT HIM IN JAIL, HE BROKE OUT.
NATURALLY, HE'D BREAK OUT. YOU DON'T THINK YOU COULD KEEP HIM BEHIND BARS!

I BELIEVE HE HELPED YOU AND HELPED US DESTROY THE SINGH PIRATES. JUST TO THROW US OFF THE SCENT. IN FACT, I TOLD HIM AS MUCH.
MEL, YOU'RE AN IDIOT!
Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved
2-1

DON'T GET ANGRY, DIANA. I KNOW YOU'RE SLIGHTLY BIASED.
BIASED! THAT'S PUTTING IT MILDLY! MEL, I'VE JUST GOT TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH ABOUT THE PHANTOM!
tomorrow—DIANA BREAKS HER WORD

YOU SEE, MEL, I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS THE PHANTOM'S SECRET. HE TOLD ME WHEN HE--WHEN HE ASKED ME TO MARRY HIM.
I--I SEE. WELL, WHY IS HE MIXED UP IN ALL THIS SKY BAND BUSINESS?

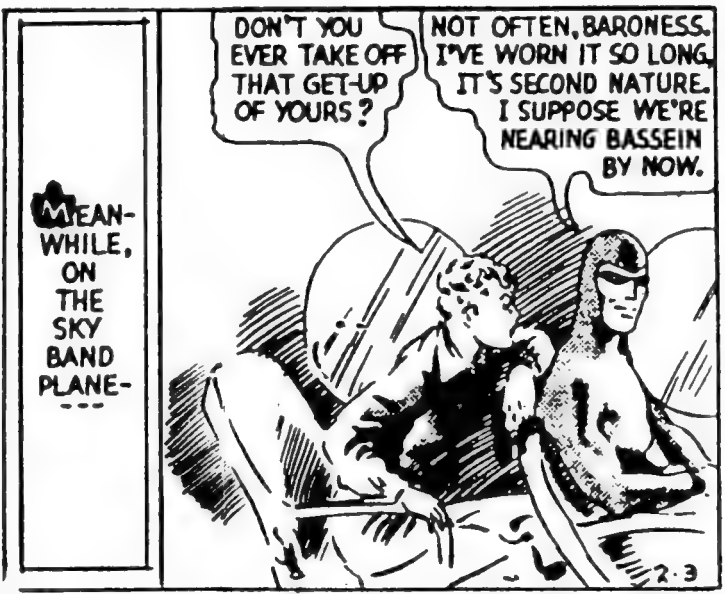
YOU KNOW, THE NATIVES THINK HE'S IMMORTAL. FOUR HUNDRED YEARS AGO, HIS DIRECT ANCESTOR SWORE AN OATH TO DEVOTE HIS LIFE TO THE DESTRUCTION OF ALL FORMS OF PIRACY AND GREED!

THAT MAN WAS THE FIRST PHANTOM. THE IRON-BOUND OATH WAS HANDED DOWN FROM FATHER TO SON. ABSOLUTE SECRECY WAS PART OF THE OATH. OUR PHANTOM IS THE PRESENT MEMBER OF THAT FAMILY.
2-2

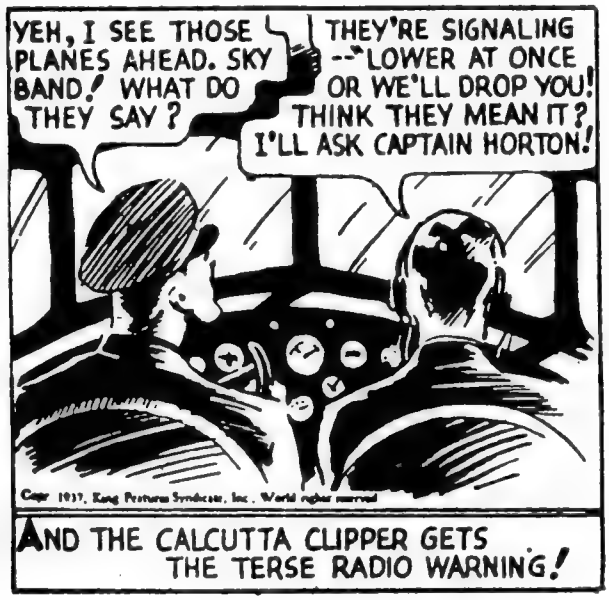
I TOLD HIM THE OATH WAS SILLY. BUT IT'S SACRED TO HIM! FATHER TO SON, FATHER TO SON--DOWN THE LINE! THAT'S WHY THE NATIVES OF THE ORIENT THINK THE PHANTOM'S IMMORTAL!
Copr 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved

DIANA TELLS HORTON OF THE PHANTOM'S BACK-GROUND.
THAT'S WHY I KNOW THE PHANTOM IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE SKY BAND, BUT OUT TO DESTROY THEM!
WELL, I'M NOT SO SURE. IT ALL CAME AS A SHOCK TO ME. I'D GROWN TO LIKE HIM.

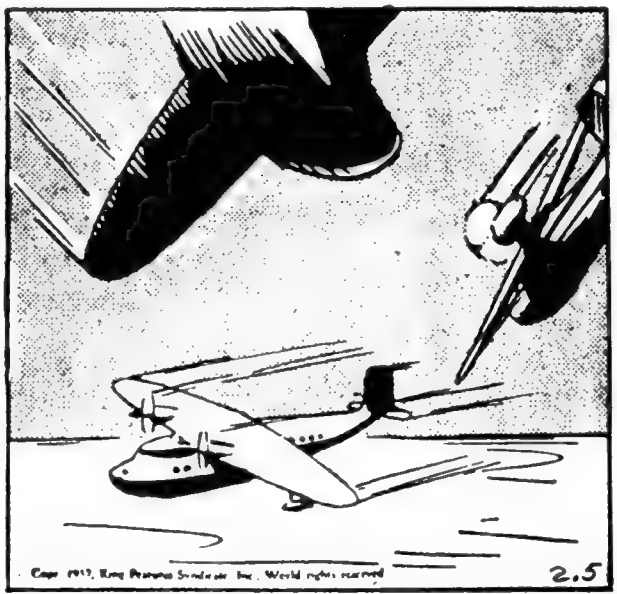
YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE ME, MEL. IT'S TRUE! IT'S TRUE!
DIANA, YOU COULD MAKE ME BELIEVE ANYTHING--WITHOUT A STRUGGLE.

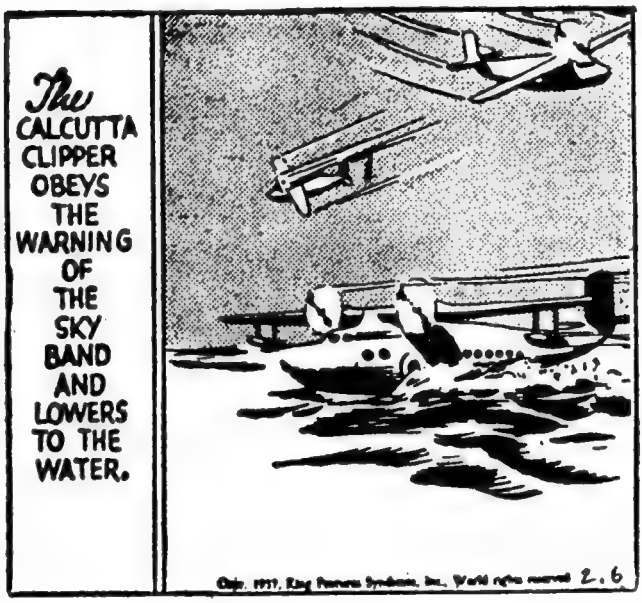

MEAN-WHILE, ON THE SKY BAND PLANE---
DON'T YOU EVER TAKE OFF THAT GET-UP OF YOURS?
NOT OFTEN, BARONESS. I'VE WORN IT SO LONG, IT'S SECOND NATURE. I SUPPOSE WE'RE NEARING BASSEIN BY NOW.
2-3

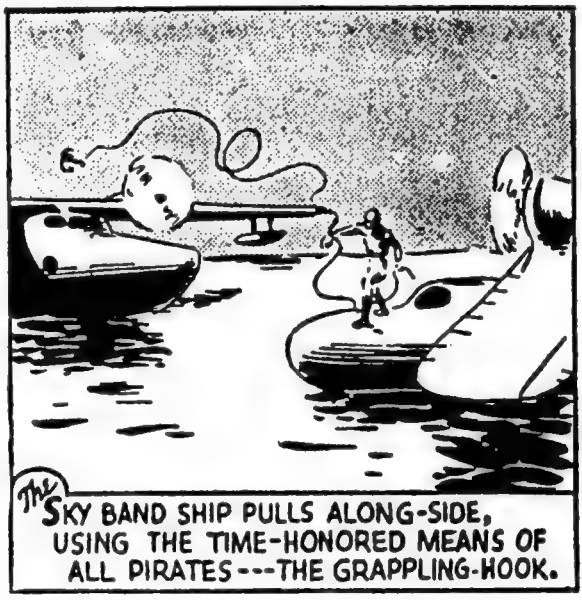
YES, ANY MINUTE NOW. THEN, WE STRIKE THE CALCUTTA CLIPPER AND YOU SHALL SEE YOUR BARONESS IN ACTION!
I CAN HARDLY WAIT.
tomorrow - PLANE MEETS PLANE



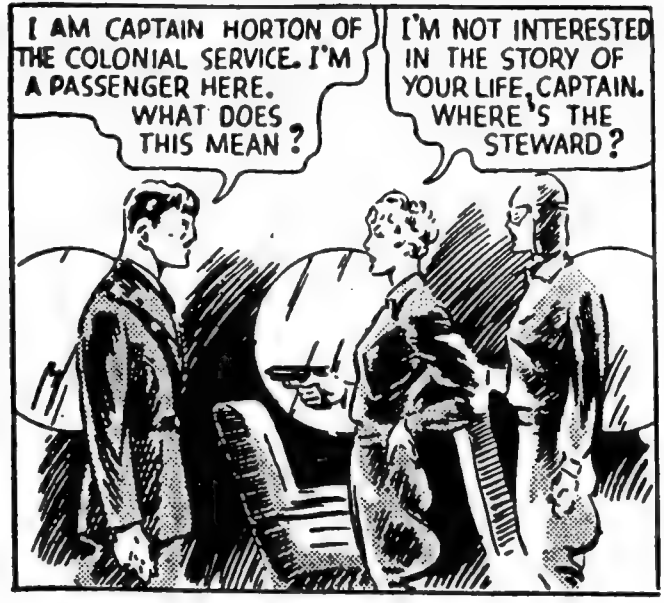
INSTANTLY, THE SKY BAND PLANES DIVE, THEIR DEADLY SALVO OF MACHINE-GUN FIRE RAKING THE CLIPPER'S WINGS!



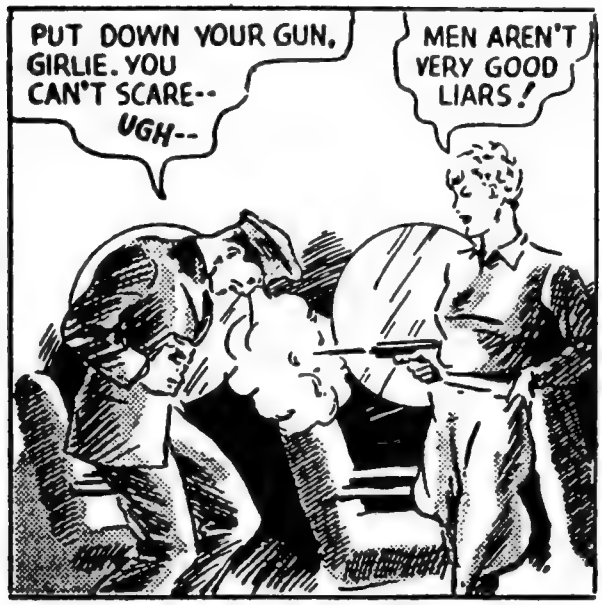


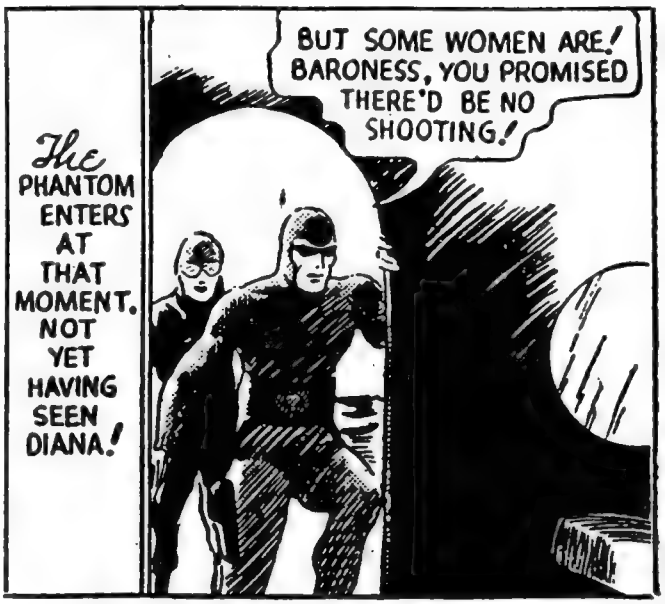


THEN, PRESSING AGAINST A WINDOW, DIANA SUDDENLY SEES THE PHANTOM EMERGE FROM THE SKY BAND PLANE!


I AM CAPTAIN HORTON OF THE COLONIAL SERVICE. I'M A PASSENGER HERE. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE, CAPTAIN. WHERE'S THE STEWARD?

BLACK PEARLS? SOMEBODY MUSTA BEEN KIDDIN' YOU ALONG, MA'AM. NOTHIN' LIKE THAT THIS TRIP.
DON'T LIE! HAND THEM OVER. TWENTY-EIGHT MATCHED BLACK PEARLS, PACKED IN A WHITE VELVET BOX! I WARN YOU---
2-B


PUT DOWN YOUR GUN, GIRLIE. YOU CAN'T SCARE-- UGH--
MEN AREN'T VERY GOOD LIARS!


The PHANTOM ENTERS AT THAT MOMENT, NOT YET HAVING SEEN DIANA!
BUT SOME WOMEN ARE! BARONESS, YOU PROMISED THERE'D BE NO SHOOTING!

HORTON! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I DON'T SUPPOSE I HAVE TO ASK YOU THE SAME QUESTION IT'S OBVIOUS. YOU'VE SHOWN UP IN YOUR TRUE COLORS--- A MEMBER OF THE SKY BAND!

IT'S NOT TRUE! IT'S NOT!
DIANA---
AND THEN, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE PHANTOM SEES DIANA!

TO HAVE TO MEET YOU AGAIN THIS WAY! TELL ME YOU'RE NOT ONE OF THESE MURDERERS! TELL ME!
PARDON ME -- BUT -- I--I'M HAVING SOME TROUBLE IN-- PLACING YOU. YOU'RE DIANA --DIANA PALMER?
2-9

HIS VOICE IS SHAKING. HE'S EITHER FRIGHTENED, OR HE'S TRYING TO BLUFF. I'LL SOON FIND OUT!
MEANWHILE, THE BARONESS WATCHES WITH NARROWED EYES!

I WISH TO TALK TO THIS WOMAN!
OH. YOU DO? YOU SHOT DOWN THAT MAN IN COLD BLOOD! YOU--

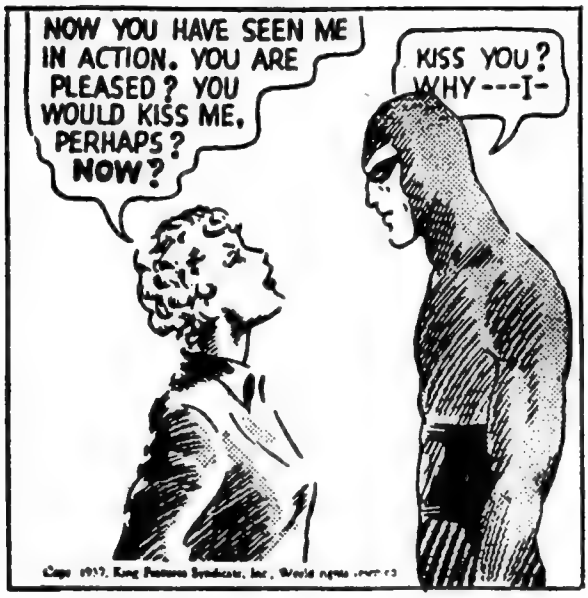
YOU DON'T LIKE THE WAY I DO THINGS, EH?
IF I HADN'T SEEN IT, I WOULDN'T BELIEVE A WOMAN COULD BE SO CRUEL, MEAN, COLD AND LOW!

MOLA, TECLA--WE'LL TAKE THIS PASTY-FACED MILK-SOP WITH US! THEN I'LL -- BAH -- WHY WASTE TIME TAKING HER? I'LL---

COME ALONG, BARONESS. WHY BOTHER WITH THIS GIRL? THERE'S NO TIME TO LOSE.
I DON'T NEED YOUR HELP, YOU CONTEMPTIBLE LIAR! YOU FAKER!
tomorrow - THE KISS

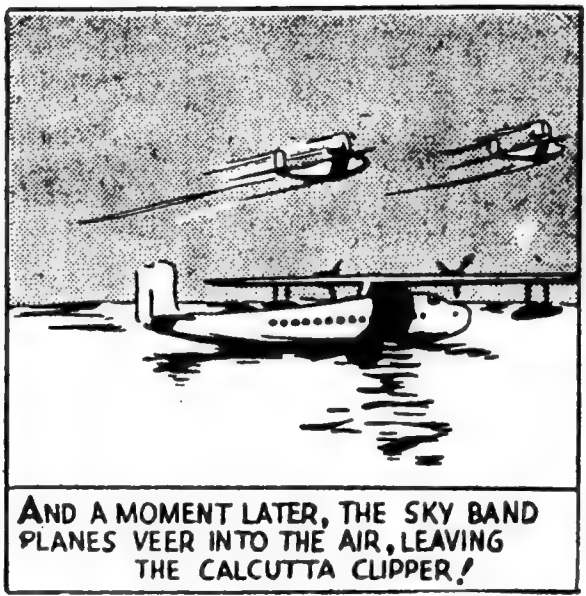
PERHAPS YOU LIKE THIS GIRL, EH? YOU WOULD HELP HER?
DON'T BE ABSURD. THAT RADIO MAN GOT OFF A WARNING, YOU KNOW. BESIDES, YOU CAME FOR PEARLS, DIDN'T YOU?

THE PEARLS ARE ALL HERE, BARONESS.
GOOD. KEEP THEM. I HAVE ONE LITTLE MATTER TO SETTLE. THEN, WE TAKE OFF. BE READY.
2-11


NOW YOU HAVE SEEN ME IN ACTION. YOU ARE PLEASED? YOU WOULD KISS ME, PERHAPS? NOW?
KISS YOU? WHY---I-

YOU KISS--- SO NICELY!

GOODBYE, MY FRIENDS. BE THANKFUL THAT I AM IN A CHARITABLE MOOD. WHEN A WOMAN IS IN LOVE, SHE DISLIKES SHOOTING MORE PEOPLE THAN IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY!

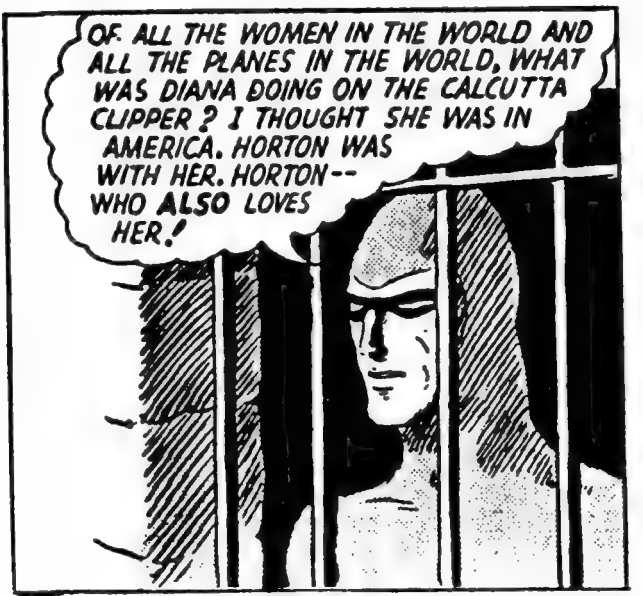

AND A MOMENT LATER, THE SKY BAND PLANES VEER INTO THE AIR, LEAVING THE CALCUTTA CLIPPER!

I CAME EIGHT THOUSAND MILES--TO--TO-- FIND THIS.
I'M SORRY, DIANA. I--I KNOW IT'S TOUGH FOR YOU-- TO FIND HIM ONE OF THE SKY BAND.

HE KISSED HER! SHE SAID SHE WAS IN LOVE! HE--HE KISSED HER---
2-12
tomorrow--THE PHANTOM BROODS

YOU DISPLEASED ME GREATLY--ATTEMPTING TO ORDER ME ABOUT. THAT GIRL--DID YOU KNOW HER?
YES--- SLIGHTLY

WELL, I PROMISED THAT YOU'D SEE ME IN ACTION---THESE PEARLS WERE WORTH THE TROUBLE. NOW YOU'LL RETURN TO YOUR CELL, UNTIL I SEND FOR YOU.


OF ALL THE WOMEN IN THE WORLD AND ALL THE PLANES IN THE WORLD, WHAT WAS DIANA DOING ON THE CALCUTTA CLIPPER? I THOUGHT SHE WAS IN AMERICA. HORTON WAS WITH HER. HORTON-- WHO ALSO LOVES HER!

--AND JUST AS MY PLANS WERE ROUNDING OUT SO WELL! IF I HADN'T KISSED THE BARONESS, SHE'D MURDERED THE WHOLE CREW --- INCLUDING DIANA. CAN I EVER EXPLAIN TO DIANA--IF I EVER SEE HER AGAIN?
2-13
CONTINUED—

DIANA--I-I ALWAYS KNEW YOU LOVED THE PHANTOM. I'M-- I'M SORRY THIS HAD TO HAPPEN. I REALLY AM.
I--I GUESS I'M THE LITTLE GIRL WHO GOT LEFT IN THE RUSH.

DON'T JUDGE HIM TOO QUICKLY. PERHAPS HE STILL--LOVES YOU.
YOU'RE SWEET TO SAY THAT, MEL. IT WASN'T BAD ENOUGH TO FIND HIM--ONE OF THE SKY BAND.

BUT HE KISSED THAT--THAT HORRIBLE WOMAN, RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME! WHY-- WHY DID HE HAVE TO BE SO--CRUEL?
PLEASE DON'T CRY, DIANA. WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW?

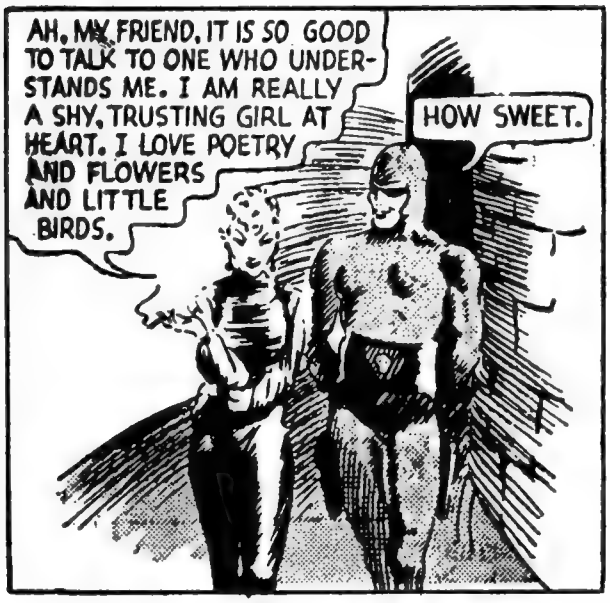
GO BACK TO AMERICA, I GUESS. I DON'T KNOW. I'M ALL-- MIXED UP.
DIANA, PLEASE STAY HERE IN CALCUTTA. PERHAPS IN TIME, YOU CAN FORGET HIM--AND WHEN THAT TIME COMES, I'LL TRY TO DO A LITTLE PINCH-HITTING --IF YOU'LL LET ME.
2-15

AH, THESE BLACK PEARLS ARE BEAUTIFUL! WORTH A QUEEN'S RANSOM! IT WAS WORTH THE TROUBLE TO GET THEM.
SHALL I ARRANGE TO HAVE THEM TAKEN TO THE MAINLAND AND DISPOSED OF IN THE USUAL WAY?

N-NO--WE SHALL NOT SELL THESE PEARLS. I SHALL KEEP THEM, MYSELF. THEY ARE BLACK--AND BLACK SEEMS TO BE THE FAVORITE COLOR OF A CERTAIN FRIEND OF MINE.

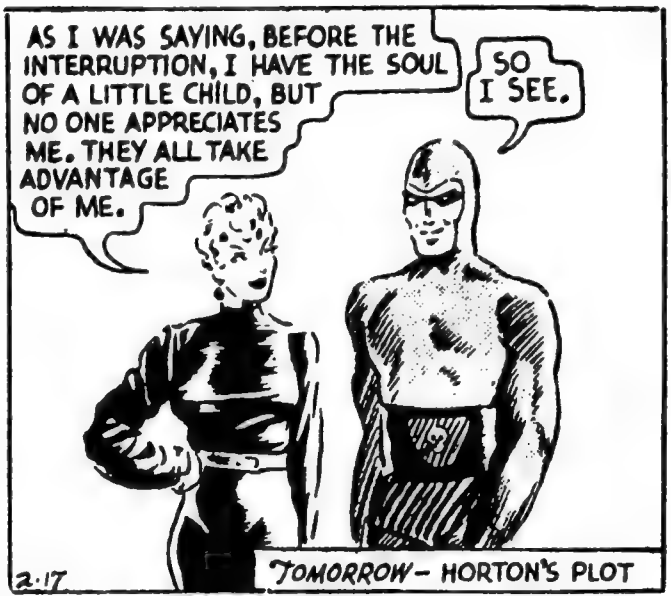
BUT, BARONESS, THAT IS AGAINST THE BAND RULES. EVERYTHING TAKEN IN RAIDS IS SOLD AND DIVIDED EQUALLY.
DON'T USE THAT TONE OF VOICE TO ME! I MAKE THE SKY BAND RULES. I BREAK THEM!
2-16

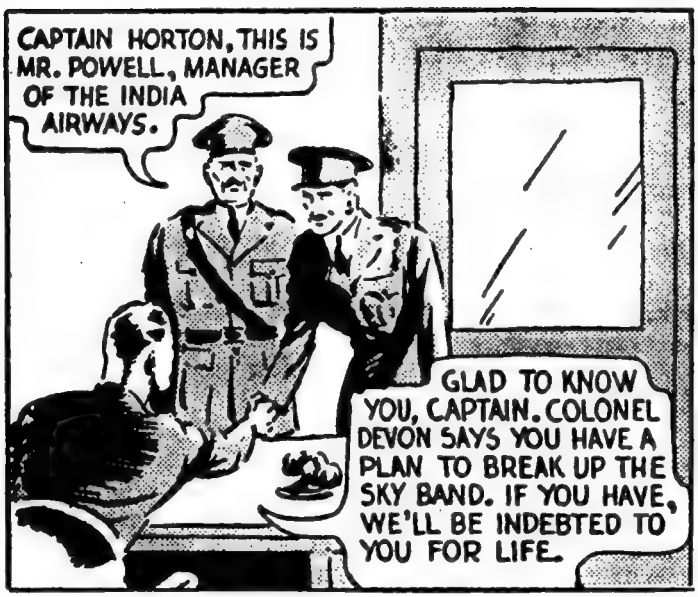
WHAT'S MORE, SALA, THERE'S A CERTAIN FRIEND OF MINE WHOM I'D ADVISE YOU TO AVOID SEEING. DO I MAKE MYSELF CLEAR?
YES, YOU DO, BARONESS. QUITE CLEAR


AH, MY FRIEND, IT IS SO GOOD TO TALK TO ONE WHO UNDERSTANDS ME. I AM REALLY A SHY, TRUSTING GIRL AT HEART. I LOVE POETRY AND FLOWERS AND LITTLE BIRDS.
HOW SWEET.

MIRANA IS READY FOR PUNISHMENT, BARONESS.
OH, YES. I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN. I WANT TO MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF HER. GIVE ME THE WHIP!

AND THE NEXT ONE --- CAUGHT-- SMOKING IN THE HANGAR--WILL GET A DOUBLE DOSE! WELL! FAINTED SO SOON! NO BACKBONE!


AS I WAS SAYING, BEFORE THE INTERRUPTION, I HAVE THE SOUL OF A LITTLE CHILD, BUT NO ONE APPRECIATES ME. THEY ALL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ME.
SO I SEE.
2-17
TOMORROW – HORTON'S PLOT



While Horton explains his plans to Powell in Calcutta, another conversation is taking place at the Sky Band base.

SHE CAN'T ORDER ME AROUND AND TELL ME WHO I CAN SEE, AND WHO I CAN'T. I'M THE WING OF THE SKY BAND. SECOND IN COMMAND. JUST LET HER DARE TRY ANYTHING WITH ME!

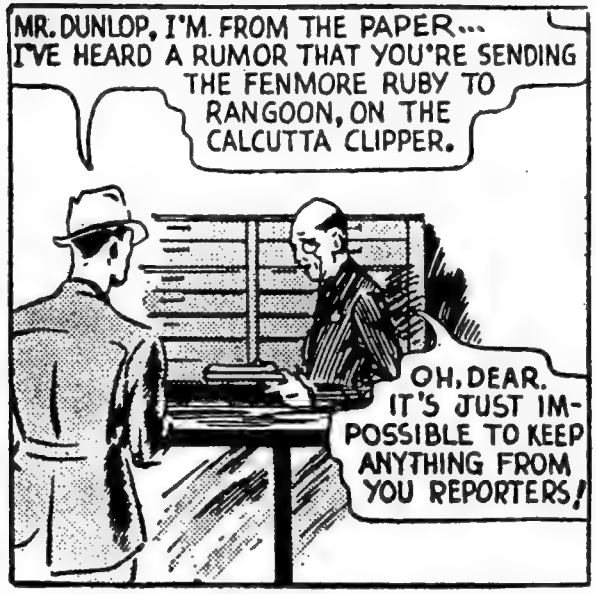
-- DARE TRY ANYTHING WITH ME!
SO THAT'S THE WAY IT IS, DEAR SALA. WE SHALL SEE. WE SHALL SEE!
MEANWHILE, THE BARONESS LISTENS TO THE CONVERSATION THROUGH A BAMBOO SPEAKING-TUBE, EXTENDING FROM THE PHANTOM'S CELL TO HER CHAMBERS!

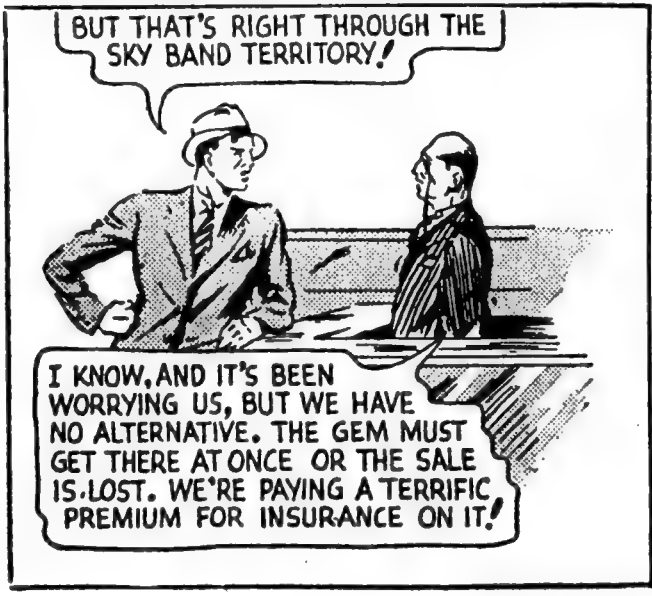
YOU SENT FOR ME?
YES, SALA, AND I'LL COME TO THE POINT. I TOLD YOU TO STAY AWAY FROM OUR--FRIEND. YET FIVE MINUTES LATER, I HEAR YOU TALKING TO HIM--AND CHALLENGING ME!

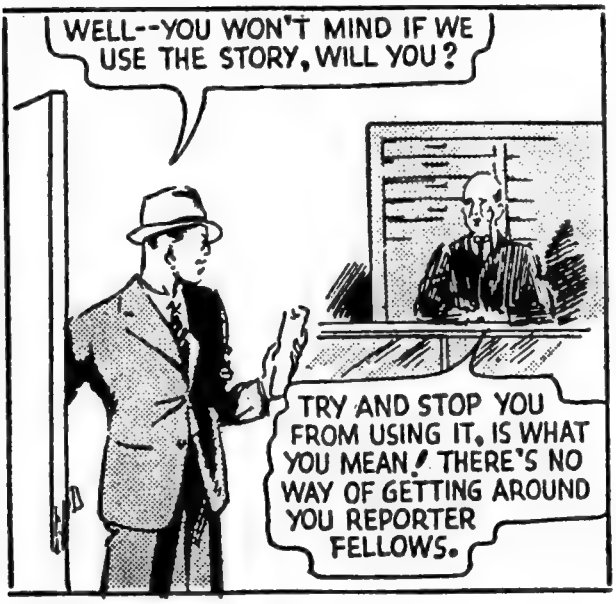
I'VE AS MUCH RIGHT TO SEE HIM AS YOU HAVE! I'M WING OF THE SKY BAND! SECOND IN COMMAND!
YOU REFUSE TO OBEY MY ORDERS? YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS!

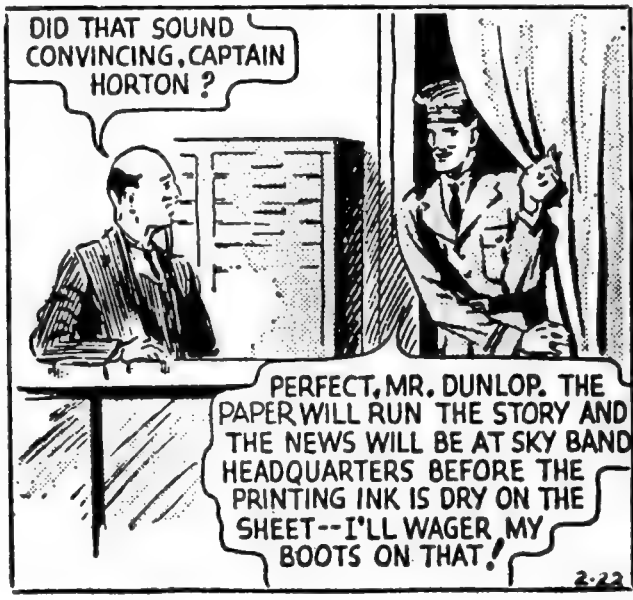
IN THIS CASE, IT MEANS--NOTHING! THIS IS PERSONAL! IF THE PHANTOM IS DANGEROUS TO THE SKY BAND, WHY DON'T YOU KILL HIM? YOU KNOW YOU NEVER WILL! I OBEY YOU ONLY WHERE THE BAND IS CONCERNED AND IN NOTHING ELSE!

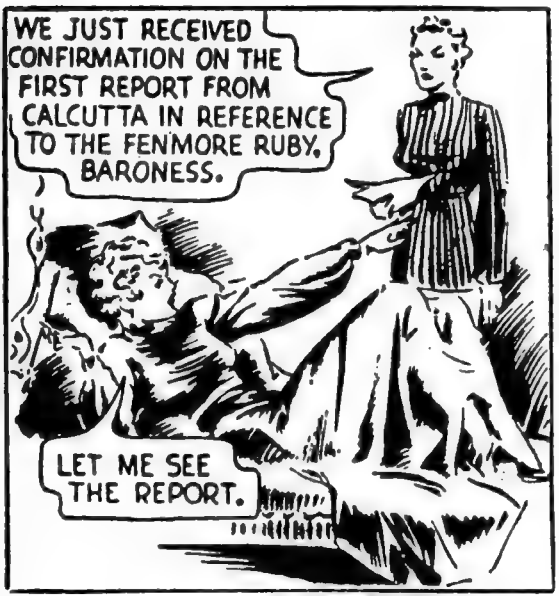
SALA IS TOO POPULAR WITH THE BAND TO BE REMOVED CLUMSILY. THIS NEEDS TIME -- AND THOUGHT. CAREFUL THOUGHT!
2-20
Next Week
SPIDERS AND FLIES.


MR. DUNLOP, I'M FROM THE PAPER... I'VE HEARD A RUMOR THAT YOU'RE SENDING THE FENMORE RUBY TO RANGOON, ON THE CALCUTTA CLIPPER.
OH, DEAR. IT'S JUST IMPOSSIBLE TO KEEP ANYTHING FROM YOU REPORTERS!


BUT THAT'S RIGHT THROUGH THE SKY BAND TERRITORY!
I KNOW, AND IT'S BEEN WORRYING US, BUT WE HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE. THE GEM MUST GET THERE AT ONCE OR THE SALE IS LOST. WE'RE PAYING A TERRIFIC PREMIUM FOR INSURANCE ON IT!


WELL--YOU WON'T MIND IF WE USE THE STORY, WILL YOU?
TRY AND STOP YOU FROM USING IT, IS WHAT YOU MEAN! THERE'S NO WAY OF GETTING AROUND YOU REPORTER FELLOWS.


DID THAT SOUND CONVINCING, CAPTAIN HORTON?
PERFECT, MR. DUNLOP. THE PAPER WILL RUN THE STORY AND THE NEWS WILL BE AT SKY BAND HEADQUARTERS BEFORE THE PRINTING INK IS DRY ON THE SHEET--I'LL WAGER MY BOOTS ON THAT!
2-22


WE JUST RECEIVED CONFIRMATION ON THE FIRST REPORT FROM CALCUTTA IN REFERENCE TO THE FENMORE RUBY, BARONESS.
LET ME SEE THE REPORT.

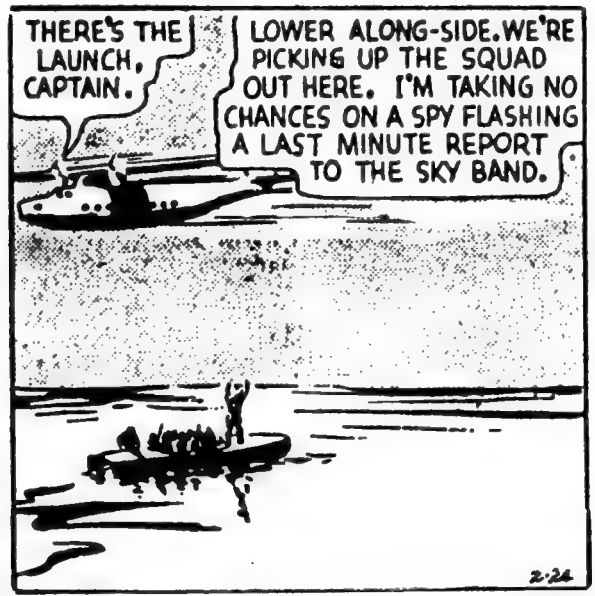
HMM--ALL NICELY PRINTED IN A NEWSPAPER FOR THE WORLD TO SEE! FENMORE RUBY BOUND FOR RANGOON ON THE CALCUTTA CLIPPER. OWNERS FEAR SKY BAND. PAY HIGH INSURANCE PREMIUM. BAH!

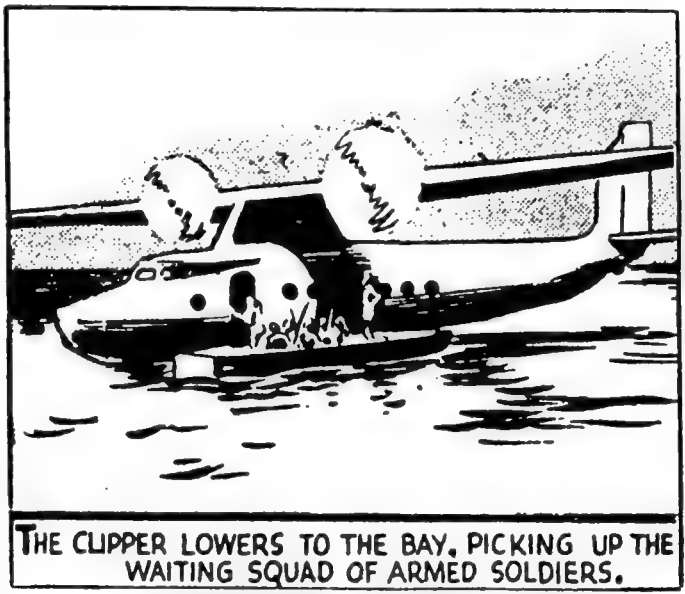
DO THEY THINK I'M A CHILD? IF THEY WERE REALLY TRANSPORTING THE RUBY, WOULD THEY TELL EVERYONE ABOUT IT? SUCH AN OBVIOUS, CLUMSY TRAP IS AN INSULT TO MY INTELLIGENCE!

AND YET, PERPHAPS THIS TRAP WILL HAVE ITS USE--TO ME! I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR A WAY TO GET RID OF SALA, WITHOUT ANTAGONIZING THE REST OF THE BAND! AND THIS IS IT!
2-23

WELL, MR. POWELL, WE'RE ALL SET. BY THIS TIME NEWS THAT THE CLIPPER IS CARRYING THE RUBY WILL HAVE REACHED THE SKY BAND.
DO YOU REALLY THINK THEY'LL BE FOOLED?

WHY NOT? PAPERS OFTEN CARRY STORIES LIKE THAT. BESIDES, THE RUBY IS WORTH A FORTUNE. I'M COUNTING ON THEIR GREED TO MAKE THEM TAKE A CHANCE.
LET'S HOPE THEY DO. GOOD LUCK.


THERE'S THE LAUNCH, CAPTAIN.
LOWER ALONG-SIDE. WE'RE PICKING UP THE SQUAD OUT HERE. I'M TAKING NO CHANCES ON A SPY FLASHING A LAST MINUTE REPORT TO THE SKY BAND.
2-24


THE CLIPPER LOWERS TO THE BAY, PICKING UP THE WAITING SQUAD OF ARMED SOLDIERS.

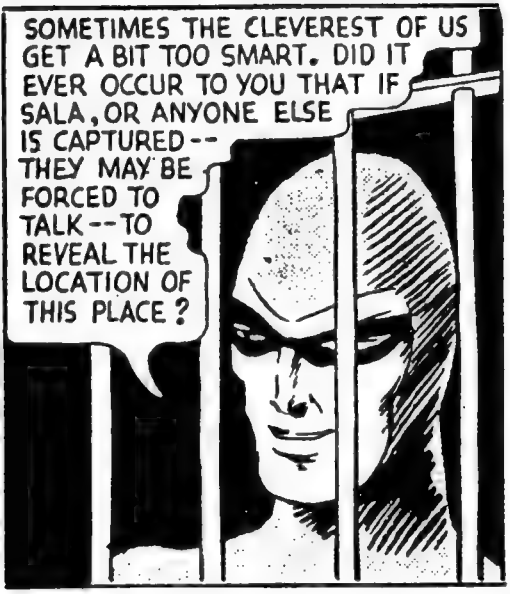
YOU HAVE YOUR ORDERS. THE CLIPPER CARRIES THE FENMORE RUBY. ATTACK NEAR BASSEIN, AS USUAL. WE'RE ONLY USING ONE PLANE --- SALA IN COMMAND.
ONE PLANE?

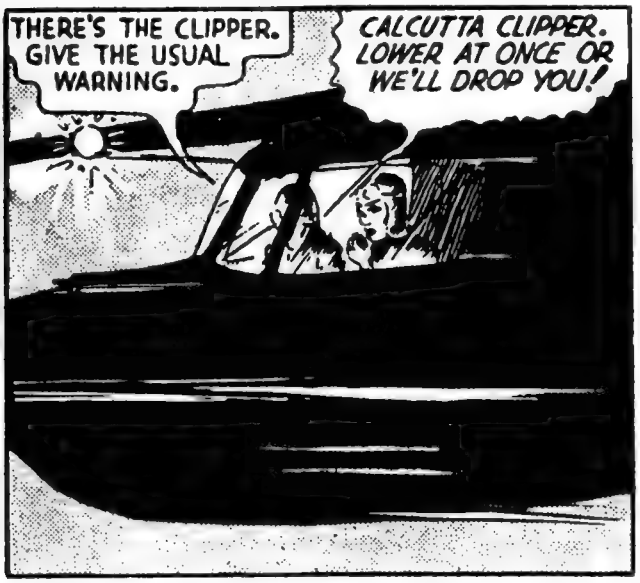
WE ALWAYS USE TWO! WHY THIS CHANGE, NOW?
YOU'RE NOT AFRAID, ARE YOU? IF YOU ARE, YOU CAN REMAIN HERE AND I'LL PUT SOMEONE ELSE IN CHARGE.

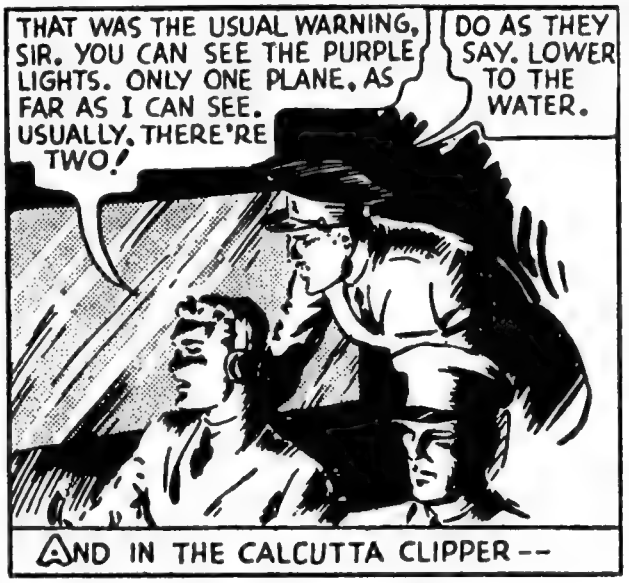
NO, I'M NOT AFRAID! YOU NEEDED TWO PLANES TO GET THE BLACK PEARLS! I'LL SHOW HIM I CAN GET THE RUBY WITH ONLY ONE!
I'M CERTAIN HE'LL BE IMPRESSED. ALL RIGHT, TAKE OFF!

THEY WERE FOOLS ENOUGH TO PRINT THAT.... PRACTICALLY THROWING THE RUBY INTO OUR LAPS.
I SEE. I STILL SAY IT LOOKS RATHER OBVIOUS— LIKE ONE OF HORTON'S IDEAS.

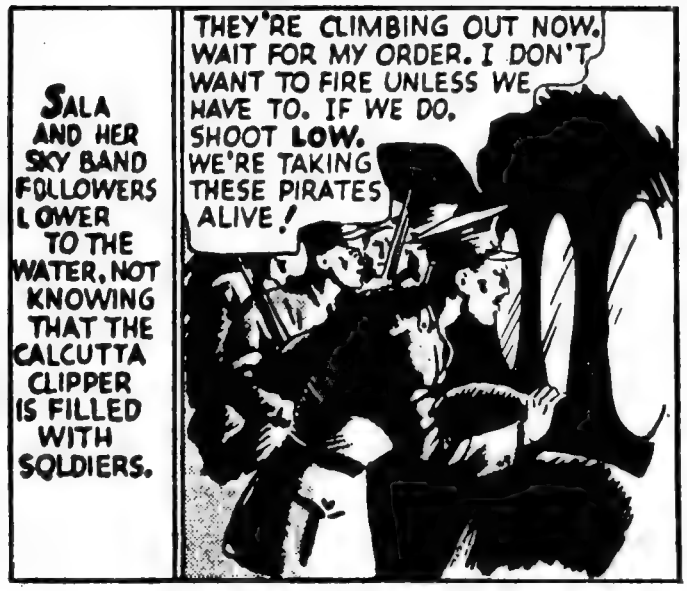
SALA HAS JUST GONE UP THE RAMP. SHE'S IN CHARGE, THIS TRIP.
OH-HO- -I SEE.

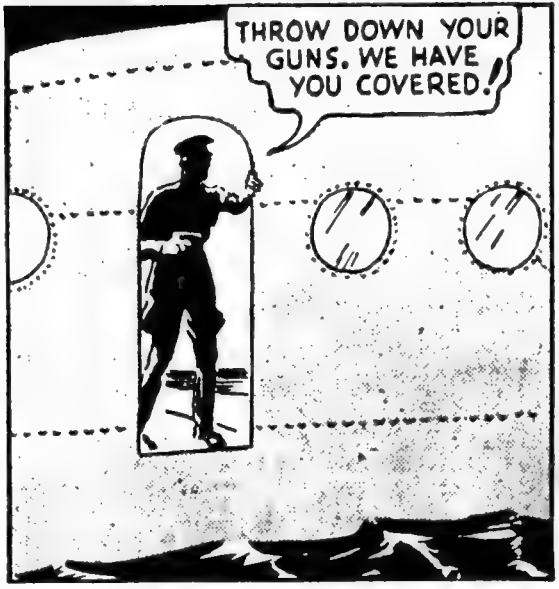






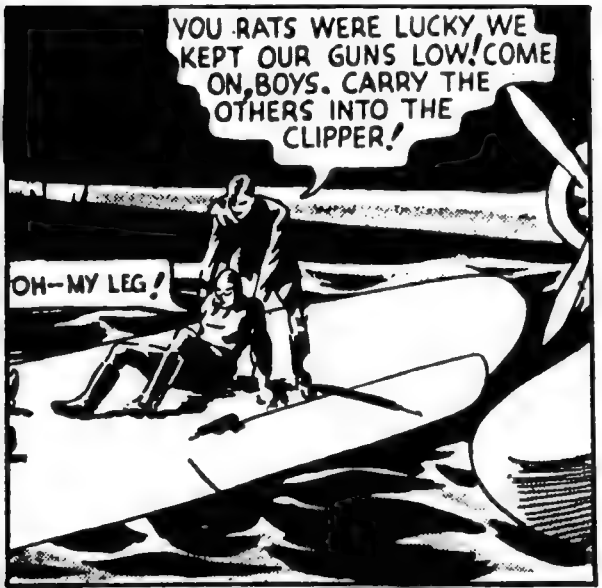
Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved


SALA AND HER SKY BAND FOLLOWERS LOWER TO THE WATER, NOT KNOWING THAT THE CALCUTTA CLIPPER IS FILLED WITH SOLDIERS.
THEY'RE CLIMBING OUT NOW. WAIT FOR MY ORDER. I DON'T WANT TO FIRE UNLESS WE HAVE TO. IF WE DO, SHOOT LOW. WE'RE TAKING THESE PIRATES ALIVE!


THROW DOWN YOUR GUNS. WE HAVE YOU COVERED!

IN REPLY, SALA FIRES POINT-BLANK!
YOU DON'T SAY!
Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

WHY, YOU-FIRE!


YOU RATS WERE LUCKY WE KEPT OUR GUNS LOW! COME ON, BOYS. CARRY THE OTHERS INTO THE CLIPPER!
OH—MY LEG!

SALA!
HORTON--SO IT'S YOU AGAIN! GUESS YOU'LL GET A MEDAL FOR THIS, WITH A NICE PINK RIBBON TO MATCH!

SAY-- THIS ONE'S A GIRL!
SO'S THIS ONE! THEY'RE ALL DAMES! IS THIS SKY BAND MADE UP OF SKIRTS EXCLUSIVELY?
Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

ANOTHER INCH AND YOU'D REALLY HAVE PUT A DENT IN ME. GUESS I'M LUCKY IT WAS YOU, INSTEAD A MAN.
I'LL DO BETTER NEXT TIME. AND TELL YOUR SOLDIER BOYS WE'RE LADIES, NOT SKIRTS.
3-R

YOUR BOY SCOUTS DIDN'T DO MUCH BETTER THAN I DID, HORTON. I WAS ONLY SCRATCHED.
YES, BY MY ORDERS. NOW WE'RE GOING TO PLAY A LITTLE QUESTIONS-AND-ANSWERS GAME. I ASK, YOU ANSWER.

IS THE SKY BAND MADE UP ENTIRELY OF WOMEN?
YES, CAPTAIN. IT'S ALL QUITE CHUMMY, LIKE A LITTLE SEWING-CIRCLE.

YOU'LL BE GIVEN YOUR FREEDOM IF YOU LEAD US TO YOUR SKY BAND BASE.
AND IF I DON'T?

THEN YOU'LL TAKE WHAT'S COMING TO YOU BEFORE A MILITARY TRIBUNAL, ON CHARGES OF PIRACY AND MURDER!
RUN ALONG, CAPTAIN. I'M TIRED OF PLAYING GAMES. UNLIKE OTHER SEWING-CIRCLES, WE NEVER GOSSIP ABOUT EACH OTHER!
tomorrow — SALA REFLECTS
3-3

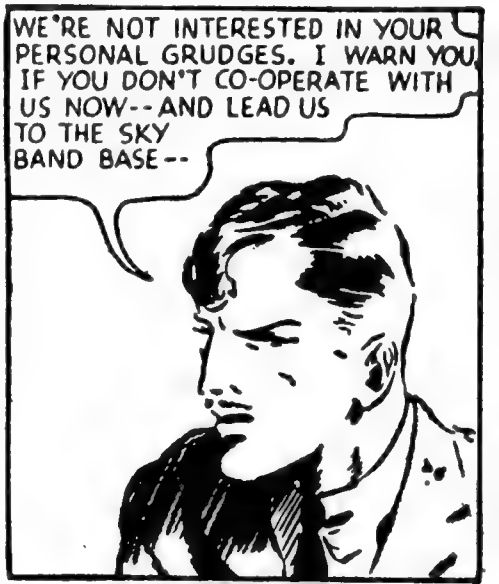
WHAT A SIMPLE FOOL I WAS--TO FALL FOR THIS TRAP. THE BARONESS KNEW IT WAS A TRAP! I'D HAVE SEEN IT MYSELF, IF I HADN'T BEEN SO ANXIOUS TO IMPRESS-- HIM!

AH--THE PHANTOM. THERE'S NO OTHER MAN LIKE HIM! I THOUGHT THE SKY BAND WAS TOO STRONG FOR ANYONE. YET HE'S DESTROYING IT--WITHOUT LIFTING A HAND.

BUT SHE'S ALONE WITH HIM NOW. SHE GOT ME OUT OF THE WAY VERY NEATLY. MAYBE YOU'RE NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR HIM, SALA--- BUT NEITHER IS SHE!

IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO FACE THE MILITARY BOARD. YOUR WHEEL-CHAIR IS BEING BROUGHT IN.
I'M READY--AND I DON'T NEED A WHEEL-CHAIR. I CAN WALK! BRING MY CLOTHES. MY ETIQUETTE BOOK TELLS ME A NIGHT-GOWN IS IMPROPER FOR COURT ATTIRE.

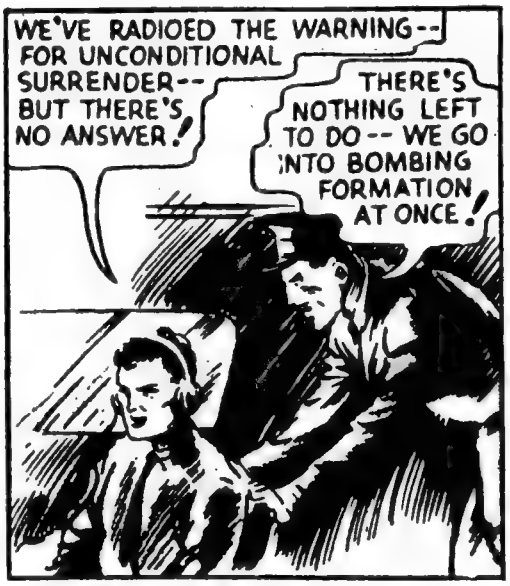
SALA FACES THE MILITARY BOARD OF INQUIRY.
YOU MUST ANSWER OUR QUESTIONS! WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY SAYING THIS IS A PERSONAL AFFAIR?
JUST THAT. I'LL SETTLE MY OWN GRUDGES--IF AND WHEN I CAN.


WE'RE NOT INTERESTED IN YOUR PERSONAL GRUDGES. I WARN YOU, IF YOU DON'T CO-OPERATE WITH US NOW--AND LEAD US TO THE SKY BAND BASE--

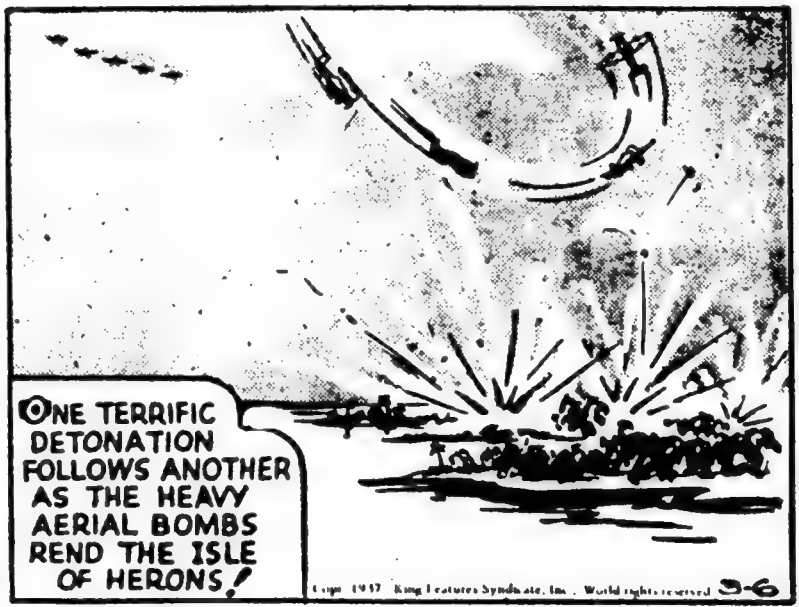
--YOU'LL NEVER HAVE THE CHANCE! BECAUSE, IF YOURE LUCKY, YOU'LL ONLY HAVE TO SPEND THE REST OF YOUR LIFE IN PRISON. WE DISLIKE EXECUTING WOMEN-- BUT THERE'S ALWAYS A FIRST TIME!
Copyright 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

THERE'S SOMETHING IN THAT. ALL RIGHT! LOAD YOUR BOMBERS! I'LL TAKE YOU TO OUR BASE! IT'LL BE A PLEASURE!
3-5
tomorrow-- ATTACK!

SALA LEADS THE MILITARY AIR SQUADRON TO THE ISLE OF HERONS, BASE OF THE SKY BAND.
THERE IT IS--THAT LITTLE SPECK AHEAD. I WARN YOU --DON'T WASTE TIME. OUR--THEIR DETECTORS PROBABLY HAVE ALREADY CAUGHT OUR PROPELLER SOUND.
DON'T WORRY--WE WON'T!


WE'VE RADIOED THE WARNING-- FOR UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER-- BUT THERE'S NO ANSWER!
THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TO DO -- WE GO INTO BOMBING FORMATION AT ONCE!

HE'S DOWN THERE--LOCKED UP IN A CELL LIKE A RAT. HE'LL DIE WITH THE REST. BUT AT LEAST---SHE WON'T GET HIM!


ONE TERRIFIC DETONATION FOLLOWS ANOTHER AS THE HEAVY AERIAL BOMBS REND THE ISLE OF HERONS!
Copyright 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved
3-6

DESERTED! EMPTY AS AN OLD BEER BOTTLE!
BY THE LOOKS OF IT, SIR, I'D SAY THEY GOT AWAY IN A HURRY--- AND NOT LONG AGO. WE FOUND A STOVE THAT WAS STILL WARM.
AFTER DEVASTATING THE SKY BAND BASE WITH AN AERIAL BOMBARDMENT, HORTON'S SQUADRON LANDS

DID YOU SEE THE RAMP LEADING UNDERGROUND? COMPLETE HANGAR AT THE BOTTOM. PRETTY SMOOTH.
YES, VERY! THERE'S SOMEONE, --THERE!

SALA--WHAT ARE YOU DOING DOWN HERE? I TOLD YOU TO REMAIN IN THE PLANE!
I WAS LOOKING FOR A CERTAIN PARTY, CAPTAIN. IF THE BOMBS HADN'T FINISHED HER--I WAS GOING TO!
Copr 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

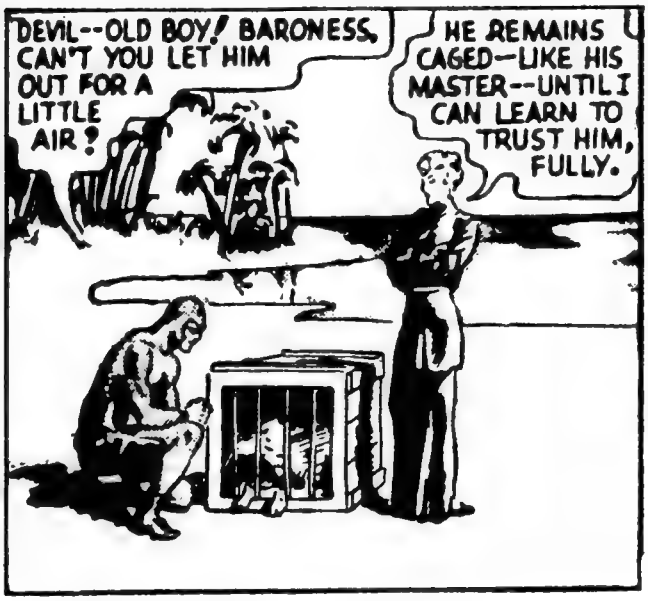
TAKE HER AWAY AND GUARD HER! SHE'S AS VICIOUS AS A WILD-CAT GIVES ME THE SHIVERS TO LOOK AT HER.
ME, TOO, SIR. MIND IF I GET ONE OF THE OTHER BOYS TO STAND GUARD WITH ME?

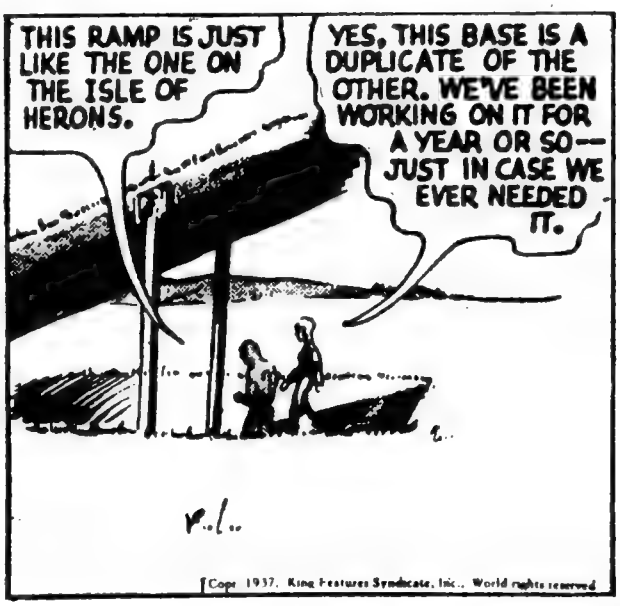
WELL, THE LIGHT BULB YOU'VE BEEN WATCHING WENT OUT AT LAST. WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
IT MEANS THAT THE SENDING APPARATUS AT OUR BASE HAS JUST BEEN DESTROYED--PROBABLY BY BOMBS.
MEANWHILE, MANY FLYING HOURS AWAY--

YOU THINK OF EVERYTHING. WHAT MADE YOU GUESS THAT SALA WOULD TURN INFORMER?
A LITTLE BIRD TOLD ME. I SUPPOSE YOU REALIZE THAT ALL THIS TROUBLE IS YOUR FAULT. MY FIRST SERIOUS SET-BACK--CAUSED BY YOU!

I DON'T FOLLOW YOU. YOU MEAN THAT YOU REALLY KNEW ABOUT THE TRAP AND KNOWINGLY SENT SALA INTO IT? AND YOU DID THIS BECAUSE---
BECAUSE IT WAS MY WISH.

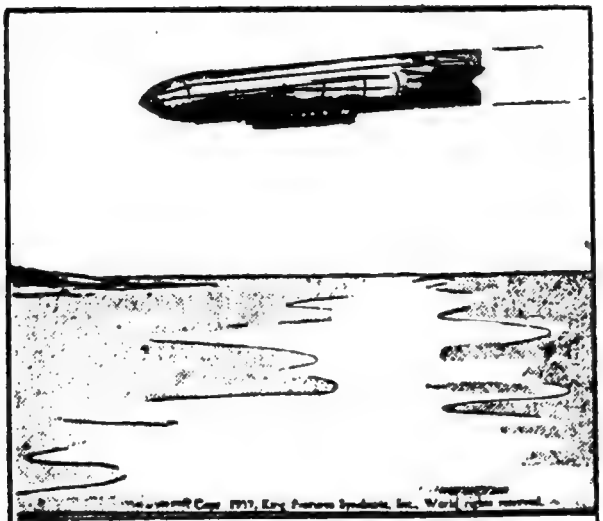
LET US NOT BE TOO INQUISITIVE, MY FRIEND, AND LET US STOP TALKING ABOUT SALA. THE TOPIC BORES ME.


DEVIL--OLD BOY! BARONESS, CAN'T YOU LET HIM OUT FOR A LITTLE AIR?
HE REMAINS CAGED—LIKE HIS MASTER--UNTIL I CAN LEARN TO TRUST HIM, FULLY.


THIS RAMP IS JUST LIKE THE ONE ON THE ISLE OF HERONS.
YES, THIS BASE IS A DUPLICATE OF THE OTHER. WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON IT FOR A YEAR OR SO--JUST IN CASE WE EVER NEEDED IT.
[Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

WE'VE ESTABLISHED A NEW RADIO CONTACT IN CALCUTTA--JUST IN CASE SALA SHOULD DECIDE TO REVEAL THE OLD ONE.
AREN'T YOU FORGETTING THAT SALA WILL KNOW ABOUT THIS NEW BASE AS WELL?

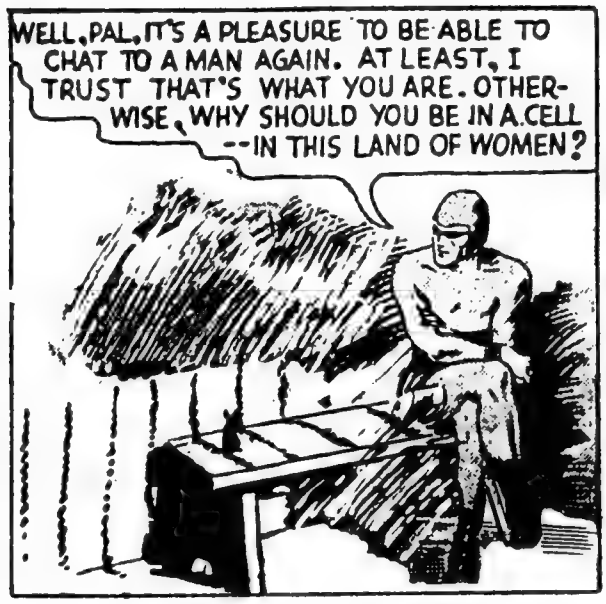
I'M FORGETTING NOTHING. WE WILL REMAIN HERE LONG ENOUGH TO PLAN THE BIGGEST FEAT OF OUR CAREER! THEN—WE MOVE! HA--OUTWITTING MEN! IT'S THE ONLY LIFE!
3-10



THE ROUND-THE-WORLD DIRIGIBLE. THE OLYMPIA, NEARS CALCUTTA...

SOMEDAY. YOU'RE GOING TO GET CAUGHT. WHAT THEN?
HM--IT'S A CHANCE WE ALL TAKE, BUT I'M READY. I'LL NEVER BE PARADED IN A COURT-ROOM BEFORE GAPING YOKELS!

THIS LOCKET CONTAINS A SMALL BUT SUFFICIENT AMOUNT OF VERY POTENT POISON. WHEN MY TIME COMES, IT'LL BE MY LAST JOKE! YOU SEE, I'LL BEAT THE HANGMAN -- AS I'VE ALWAYS BEATEN ALL OTHER MEN!


WELL, PAL, IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE ABLE TO CHAT TO A MAN AGAIN. AT LEAST, I TRUST THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE. OTHERWISE, WHY SHOULD YOU BE IN A CELL --IN THIS LAND OF WOMEN?

WHO WERE YOU TALKING TO? I HEARD YOU! DON'T DENY IT!
THERE'S NOTHING TO DENY. I WAS CHATTING TO THAT LITTLE MOUSE THERE. HE'S BEEN COMING AROUND EVERY MORNING FOR CRUMBS.
3-13

A MOUSE! UGH! HORRIBLE! I'LL HAVE RAT POISON SCATTERED AROUND YOUR CELL.
OH, NO, YOU DON'T. THAT LITTLE MOUSE AND I HAVE BECOME PALS. IF HE GOES, I GO.

LITTLE MOUSE, IF ONLY I COULD SLIP THROUGH THE BARS LIKE YOU DO. I CAN'T DELAY ANY LONGER. THE OLYMPIA IS THE LAST STRAW. I'VE GOT TO ACT IN A HURRY--NOW! BUT HOW?
CONTINUED

The BARONESS TELLS THE PHANTOM THAT THE SKY BAND PLANS TO ATTACK THE OLYMPIA, WORLD'S LARGEST DIRIGIBLE!

MR. MOUSE, WE CAN'T LET HER GET AWAY WITH IT! IT'S UP TO ME TO STOP HER! BUT HOW? IRON BARS ARE IRON BARS, AFTER ALL. MAYBE I'M A SOFTY--BUT I CAN'T SLUG A WOMAN. AND YET--SAY!

Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

YOU ASKED TO SEE ME? AN URGENT MATTER?

YES, BARONESS, I WANT TO ASK A FAVOR. I HOPE IT'S NOT ASKING TOO MUCH. IT'S SOMETHING THAT I--THAT I REALLY LOVE.

LOVE? AH--HOW I HAVE WAITED FOR THIS. EXCEPT FOR YOUR FREEDOM, YOU MAY HAVE ANYTHING. BUT PERHAPS YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR FREEDOM, EH? TELL ME --WHAT IT IS THAT YOU WANT? JUST WHISPER TO ME---

ALL RIGHT, I'LL WHISPER IT, BARONESS.—SH—I'D LIKE A NICE PIECE OF CHEESE.

CHEESE!

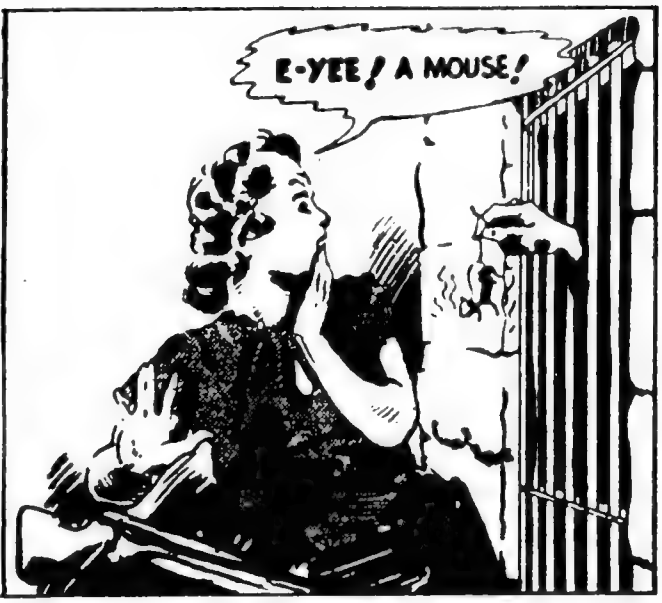
USING CHEESE AS A BAIT, THE PHANTOM TRAPS THE SMALL MOUSE IN HIS CELL.

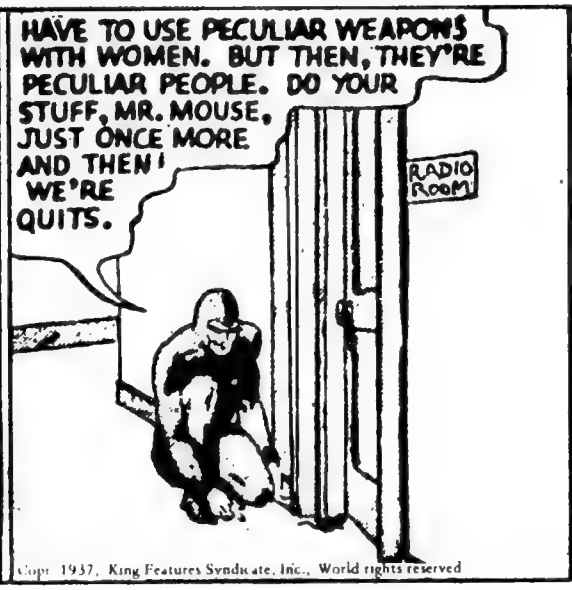
YOU LIKE CHEESE, TOO, EH? WELL, I WON'T KEEP YOU LONG, PAL. I JUST WANT TO BORROW YOU FOR A FEW MINUTES. HONEST, I'LL LET YOU GO.

Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved

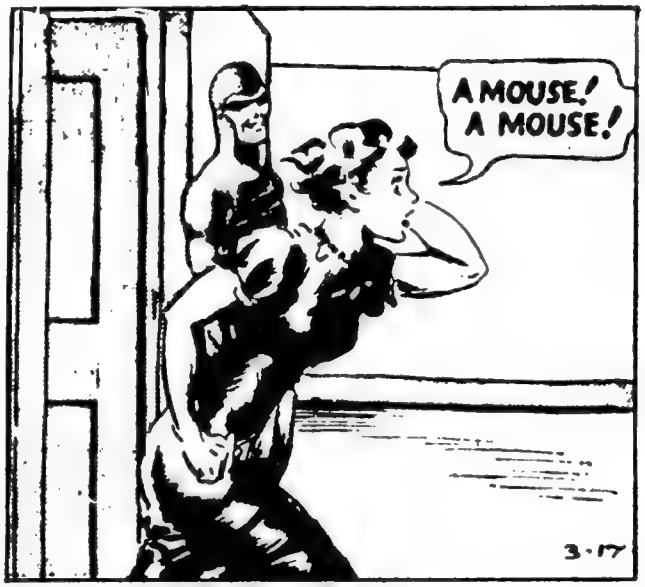
DID YOU CALL ME? WHAT DO YOU WANT?

JUST WANTED TO SHOW YOU A FRIEND OF MINE.





Copr. 1937, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved



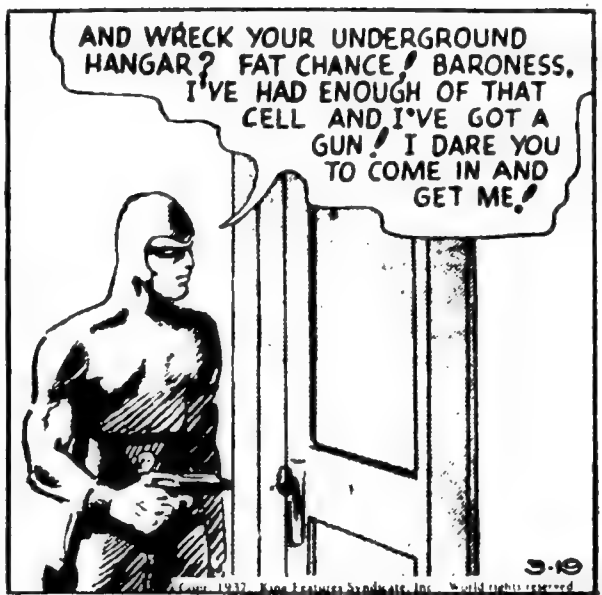
CALCUTTA...X9ZT3... CALLING X9ZT3...CALLING CALCUTTA..X9ZT3...

NEVER MIND WHO I AM, OR WHERE I AM OR HOW I KNEW YOUR CALL NUMBER. TAKE DOWN A MESSAGE AND SEE THAT IT IS SENT TO CAPTAIN MELVILLE HORTON. YES, HORTON.

I'M GOING TO TALK FAST AND HAVEN'T GOT TIME TO REPEAT A WORD. SO HERE GOES. NOW GET IT!

--AND THEN HE TIED ME UP AND--
--I DIDN'T SEE HIM. I JUST SAW THE MOUSE. I RAN OUT---
FOOLS! HE'S INSIDE AND THE DOOR'S LOCKED!

I'M GIVING YOU YOUR LAST CHANCE! COME OUT OR WE'LL DYNAMITE THE DOOR!


AND WRECK YOUR UNDERGROUND HANGAR? FAT CHANCE! BARONESS, I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THAT CELL AND I'VE GOT A GUN! I DARE YOU TO COME IN AND GET ME!
3-19

WHAT CAN WE DO? WE DARE NT USE DYNAMITE DOWN HERE.
WE COULD STARVE HIM OUT--
AND LEAVE HIM IN THE RADIO-ROOM? NO! WAIT! BRING ME HIS ANIMAL!

I'VE GOT DEVIL, YOUR ANIMAL, OUT HERE. IF YOU DON'T COME OUT IN THIRTY SECONDS. I'LL BLOW OFF HIS HEAD!

The BARONESS THREATENS TO KILL DEVIL IF THE PHANTOM DOES NOT COME OUT OF THE RADIO-ROOM.
HOW DO I KNOW YOU'VE GOT DEVIL OUT THERE? DEVIL, DEVIL, CAN YOU HEAR ME? LET ME HEAR YOU, FELLA.

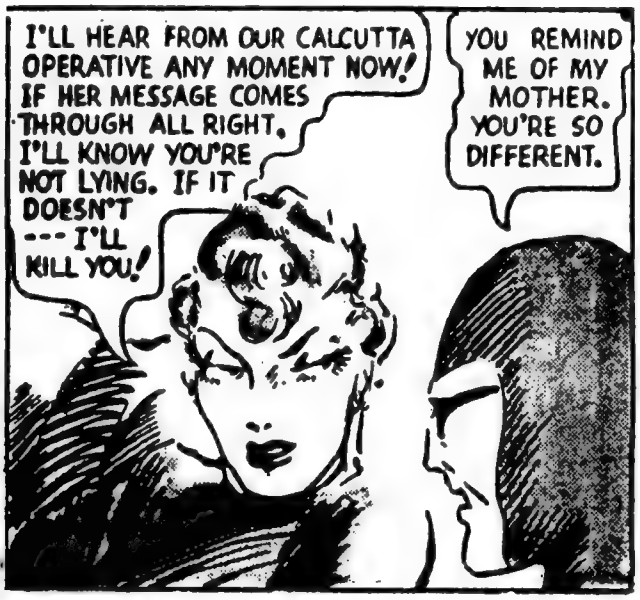
HE JUST SPOKE FOR HIMSELF. YOU'VE GOT TEN SECONDS LEFT TO DECIDE.
WOOF!

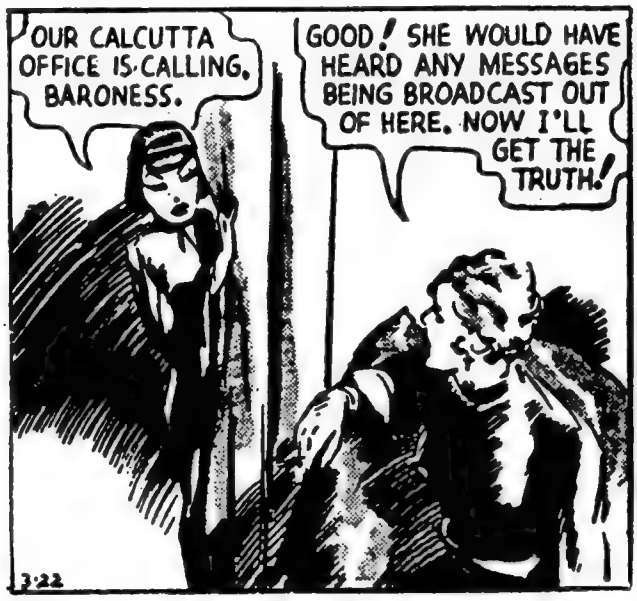
WELL, THIS IS YOUR ROUND, BARONESS.
PUT HANDCUFFS ON HIM! THROW DOWN YOUR PISTOL!

HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A DOG'S AGE, FELLA. DIDN'T THINK I WAS GOING TO LET HER SHOOT YOU, DID YOU? I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A SUCKER ABOUT YOU AND SO HELP ME, I GUESS I ALWAYS WILL.

AND I HAD ALMOST COME TO TRUST YOU!
NEVER TRUST A MAN WHOM YOU KEEP IN HANDCUFFS, BARONESS. IN FACT, NEVER TRUST ANY MAN. WE'RE AN AWFULLY UNRELIABLE SPECIES.

NEVER MIND THAT! COME TO THE POINT! WHAT DID YOU DO IN THE RADIO-ROOM? WHOM DID YOU CALL?
I KEPT GETTING NOTHING BUT WRONG NUMBERS, SO I JUST TWIDDLED MY THUMBS.


I'LL HEAR FROM OUR CALCUTTA OPERATIVE ANY MOMENT NOW! IF HER MESSAGE COMES THROUGH ALL RIGHT, I'LL KNOW YOU'RE NOT LYING. IF IT DOESN'T --- I'LL KILL YOU!
YOU REMIND ME OF MY MOTHER. YOU'RE SO DIFFERENT.


OUR CALCUTTA OFFICE IS CALLING, BARONESS.
GOOD! SHE WOULD HAVE HEARD ANY MESSAGES BEING BROADCAST OUT OF HERE. NOW I'LL GET THE TRUTH!
3-22

YES, THIS IS THE BARONESS. DID YOU CATCH ANY MESSAGE ORIGINATING HERE, ABOUT A HALF-HOUR AGO?
NO, BARONESS, I'VE BEEN WAITING TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU. WERE YOU TRYING TO REACH ME?

NEVER MIND. WHAT OF THE OLYMPIA?
OLYMPIA LEAVING CALCUTTA AT NOON, VIA BASSEIN AS WAS EXPECTED.

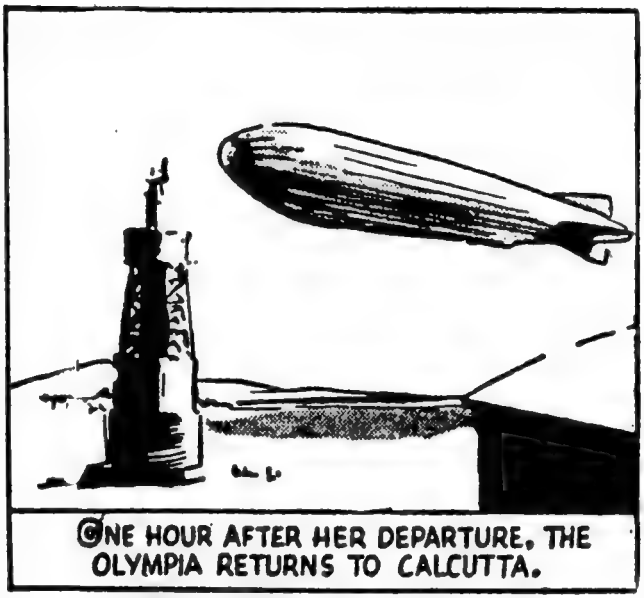
MEANWHILE, IN THE SECRET CALCUTTA OFFICE OF THE SKY BAND--

YOU'LL LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO SEE ME CAPTURE THE OLYMPIA! THEN ---I'LL HAVE THE JOY OF WATCHING YOU DIE --- SLOWLY-- SLOWLY!

PRETENDING NOT TO FEEL THE WHIP, EH? TOO PROUD TO CRINGE, EH!
YOU'RE NOT A WOMAN. YOU'RE A VICIOUS ANIMAL. SOMEHOW, I FEEL SORRY FOR YOU. YOU'VE MADE A MESS OF YOUR LIFE.
3-25

TAKE HIM-- -AWAY!

THE --THE ONLY MAN I --I'VE EVER LOVED --HE --HE WAS RIGHT--BUT-- BUT IT'S TOO LATE TO-TO TURN BACK--NOW—
AND LATER. IN HER OWN ROOM--


ONE HOUR AFTER HER DEPARTURE, THE OLYMPIA RETURNS TO CALCUTTA.

I SAY! THIS IS AN OUTRAGE! WHY HAVE WE COME BACK TO CALCUTTA?
IT'S UNHEARD OF! YOUR SUPERIORS WILL HEAR ABOUT THIS FROM ME!
SORRY, GENTLEMEN. I HAVE MY ORDERS.

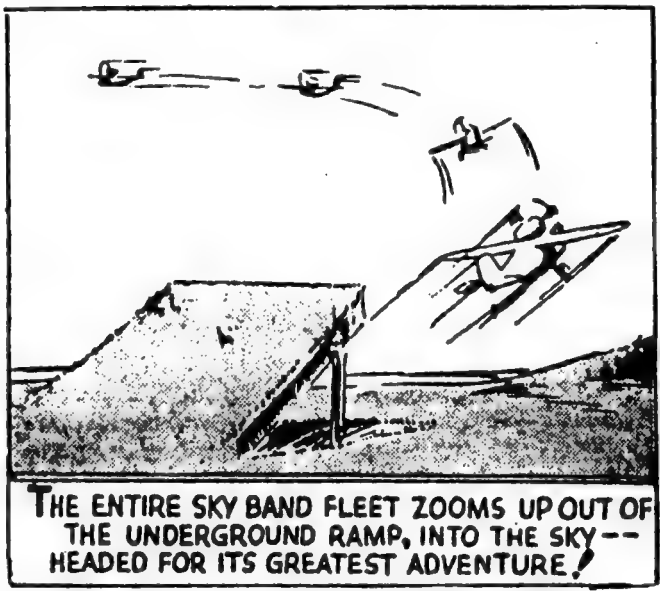
CAPTAIN HORTON --WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS DELAY?
GENTLEMEN, YOU CAN THANK YOUR LUCKY STARS YOU ARE HERE. YOU'VE ESCAPED KIDNAPING, POSSIBLE DEATH.

AND YOU OWE IT ALL TO ONE BRAVE MAN WHOM YOU'VE NEVER SEEN. HE'S WORKED ALL ALONE, IN THE DARK, UNAIDED. AND NOW HE'S PROBABLY GIVEN HIS LIFE-- AS WELL--
3·26

WE LEAVE NOW! YOU SHALL SEE ME TRIUMPH--IN SPITE OF YOU!
WELL, IT WAS A GOOD FIGHT WHILE IT LASTED.

I TRUSTED YOU--WOULD HAVE GIVEN YOU MY LOVE! BUT YOU TRIED TO TRICK ME. YOU'LL NEVER RETURN HERE. THE SHARKS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN WILL HAVE YOU IN TWO HOURS!
AND I'LL BET IT'LL BE A FEMALE SHARK, AT THAT.

SHE DOESN'T KNOW IT, BUT SHE'S NOT MEETING THE OLYMPIA. HORTON'S FIGHTING PLANES WILL BE WAITING FOR HER. IT'S THE END FOR US, DEVIL--EITHER WAY. AND DIANA WILL NEVER KNOW THAT--THAT I'VE ALWAYS LOVED HER.
3·27

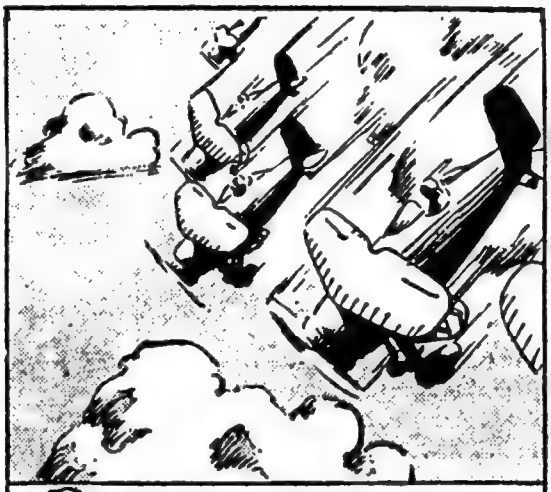

THE ENTIRE SKY BAND FLEET ZOOMS UP OUT OF THE UNDERGROUND RAMP, INTO THE SKY-- HEADED FOR ITS GREATEST ADVENTURE!

SKIRTING THE BENGAL COAST OF BURMA, THE SKY BAND SEARCHES FOR THE OLYMPIA, ROUND-THE-WORLD DIRIGIBLE!

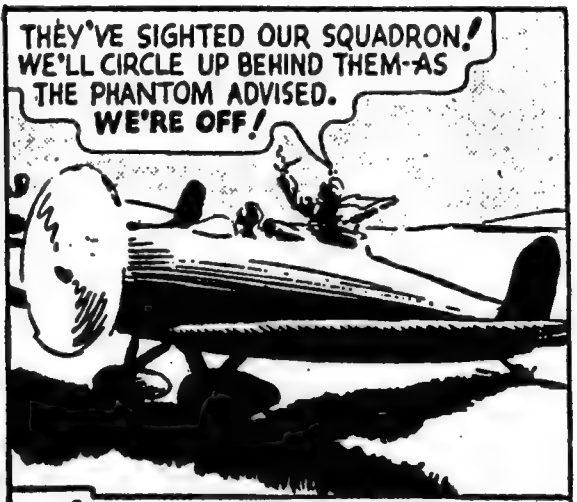
WE'RE NEAR BASSEIN, BARONESS.

SOMETHING'S WRONG! WE SHOULD HAVE SIGHTED THE OLYMPIA BY NOW! LOOK! PLANES! ARMY PLANES!

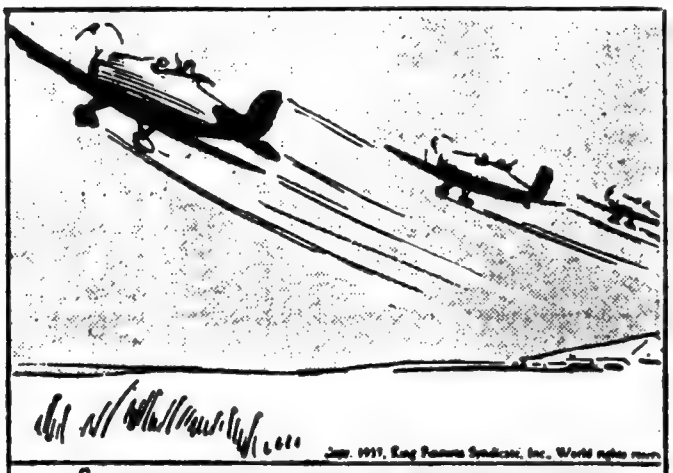
3-29



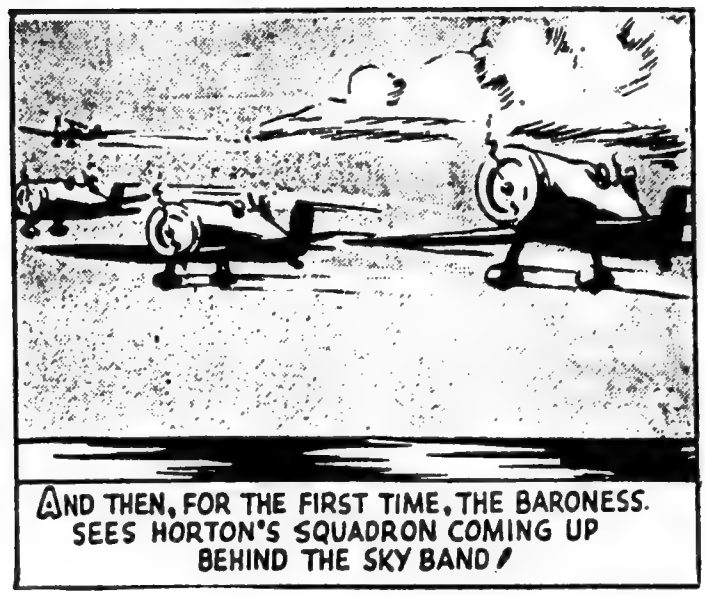
OUT OF THE CLOUDS ROAR FIVE ARMY PLANES--HEADED TOWARDS THE SKY BAND FLEET!



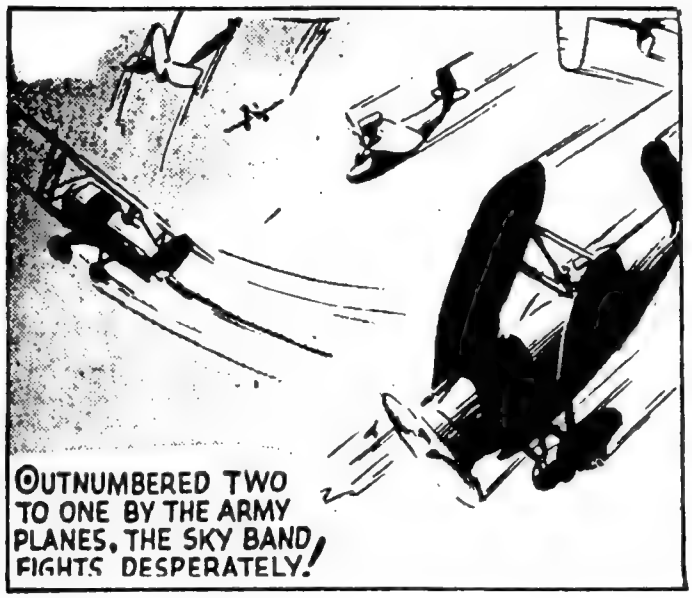
AND ON THE COASTAL PLANE, HORTON WATCHES THE SKY BAND PASS --- THEN SIGNALS--

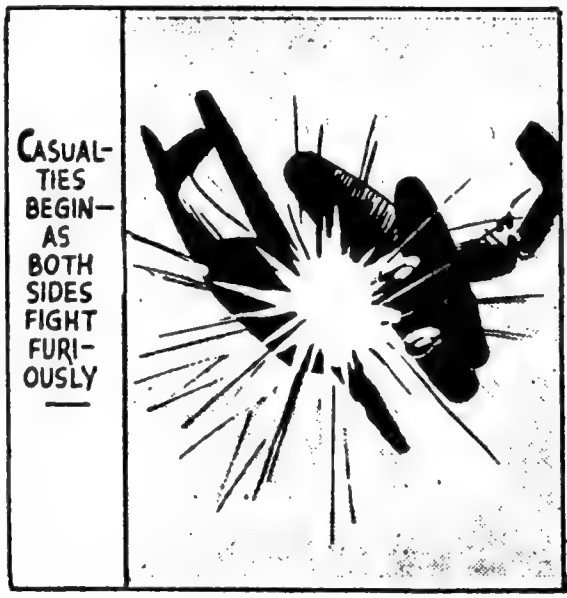


--AND THE SECOND ARMY SQUADRON VEERS INTO THE AIR--COMING UP BEHIND THE SKY BAND TO COMPLETE THE AIR-TRAP!

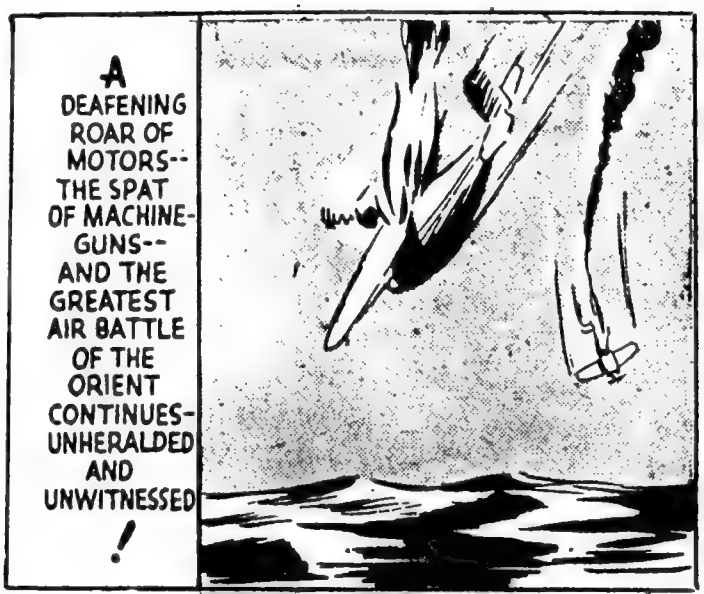

AND THEN, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE BARONESS SEES HORTON'S SQUADRON COMING UP BEHIND THE SKY BAND!

TRAPPED! TEN PLANES TO OUR FIVE! WE'LL HAVE TO FIGHT OUR WAY OUT! AND WE'LL GIVE THEM A FIGHT THEY'LL NEVER FORGET!
tomorrow-DOG FIGHT


OUTNUMBERED TWO TO ONE BY THE ARMY PLANES, THE SKY BAND FIGHTS DESPERATELY!


CASUALTIES BEGIN— AS BOTH SIDES FIGHT FURIOUSLY

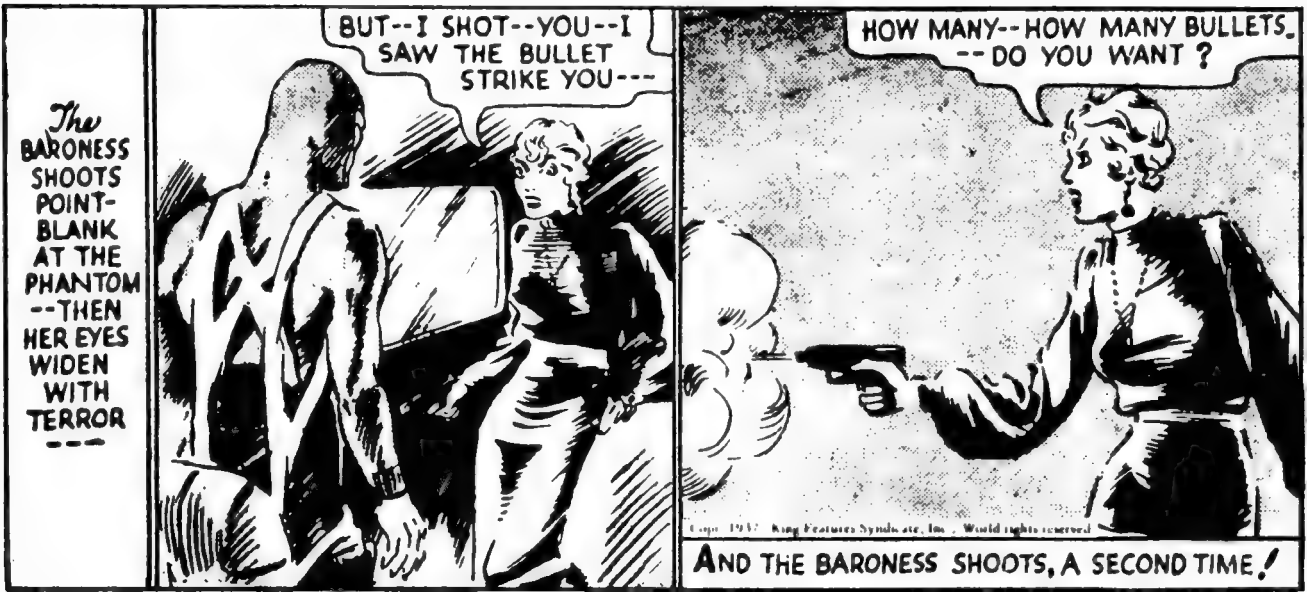
THOSE DEVILS--CAN FIGHT! ALL WOMEN! THEY'RE --WILD-CATS!
3-31


A DEAFENING ROAR OF MOTORS-- THE SPAT OF MACHINE-GUNS-- AND THE GREATEST AIR BATTLE OF THE ORIENT CONTINUES- UNHERALDED AND UNWITNESSED!

The GREATER MOBILITY OF THE SMALL ARMY PLANES BEGINS TO TELL, AS FOUR OF THE FIVE SKY BAND PLANES ARE DROPPED!
WE'RE BEATEN! ALL OF YOU--BAIL OUT! WE'RE OVER THE COAST. TELMA, BEFORE YOU JUMP PUT A PARACHUTE ON THE PHANTOM AND CUT HIS BONDS!
Copr 1937 King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved
UNWILLINGLY--BUT OBEDIENT TO THE LAST, THE BARONESS' CREW BAILS OUT!

I SEE YOU LOCKED THE CONTROLS, BARONESS. WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?
YOU'VE DESTROYED MY BAND--DESTROYED ME! I'M GOING TO KILL YOU--DO YOU HEAR! AND LET YOUR DEAD BODY FLOAT DOWN TO THE SHARKS!
4-1

THE SKY BAND DIES--BUT SO DOES THE PHANTOM --NOW!
Tomorrow—THE GHOST WHO WALKS.


The BARONESS SHOOTS POINT-BLANK AT THE PHANTOM --THEN HER EYES WIDEN WITH TERROR ---
BUT--I SHOT--YOU--I SAW THE BULLET STRIKE YOU---
HOW MANY--HOW MANY BULLETS --DO YOU WANT?
Copr 1937 King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved
AND THE BARONESS SHOOTS, A SECOND TIME!

SAY SOMETHING! SAY SOMETHING! THE NATIVES --THE NATIVES SAY YOU ARE IMMORTAL--- THAT YOU CANNOT BE KILLED! IT CAN'T BE TRUE --BUT--BUT IT IS!
42

IS THIS WHY YOU'VE NEVER --FEARED ME---LAUGHED AT ME? YOU ARE--- IMMORTAL? YOU ARE--THE GHOST WHO WALKS! OH!
THE COLD NERVE OF THE BARONESS VANISHES AS SHE SCREAMS IN TERROR!

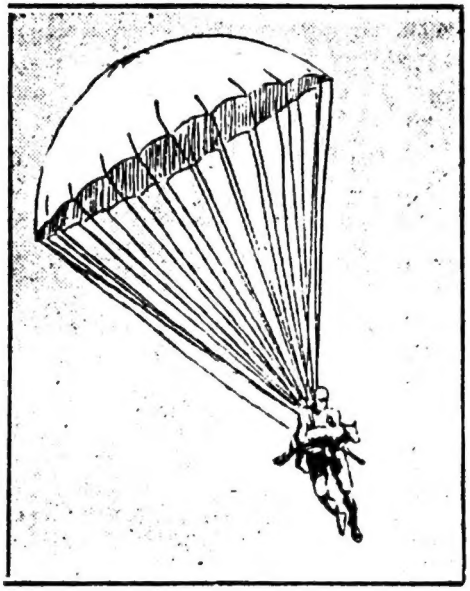
The BARONESS RECOILS IN TERROR WHEN HER TWO BULLETS FAIL TO STOP THE ON-COMING PHANTOM!
THE GHOST WHO WALKS! YOU'VE MOCKED ME--- ALL ALONG---MY SKY BAND DESTROYED---
AND THE BARONESS QUICKLY LIFTS HER POISON-LOCKET TO HER LIPS--

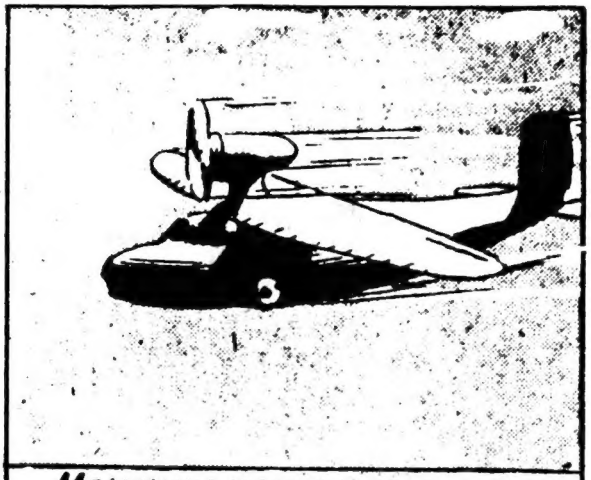
DEAD--BY HER OWN HAND--AS SHE ALWAYS SAID SHE WOULD DO --WHEN THE TIME CAME--

MAINTAIN-ING CONSCIOUS-NESS BY SHEER WILL-POWER, THE PHANTOM STAGGERS DOWN THE NARROW AISLE—
COME ON--DEVIL--WE HAVE TO --GET OUT OF HERE--- I'VE GOT TWO OF HER BULLETS--IN ME--
43

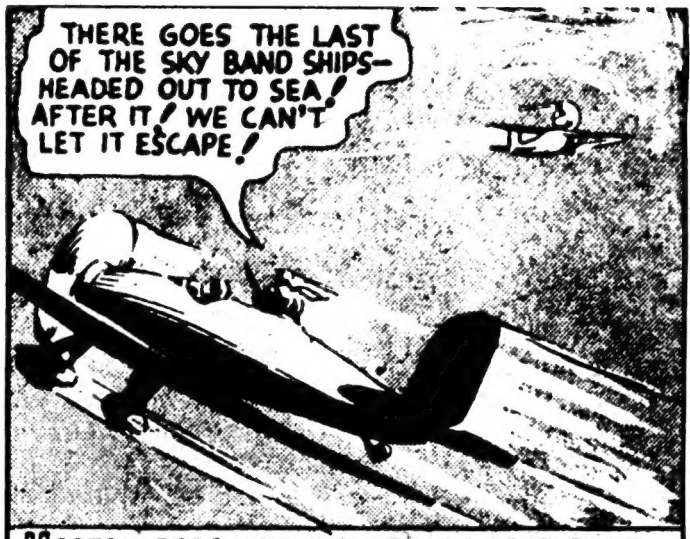
-AND REACHING THE CABIN DOOR, REELS, THEN STUMBLES OUT INTO SPACE!

SERIOUSLY WOUNDED BY THE BARONESS' BULLETS. THE PHANTOM DRIFTS EARTHWARD WITH DEVIL IN HIS ARMS.



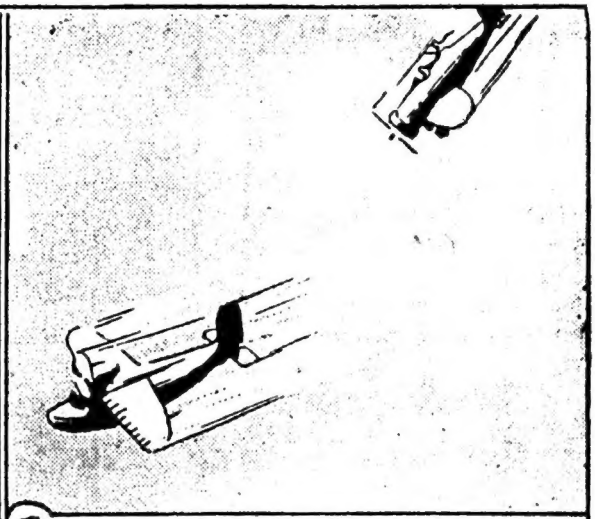


MEANWHILE, DEAD BY HER OWN HAND, THE BARONESS SLUMPS OVER THE LOCKED CONTROLS OF HER PLANE AS IT SPEEDS OUT TO SEA!



HORTON DOES NOT KNOW THAT A DEAD PILOT SITS AT THE STICK OF THE ESCAPING PLANE!

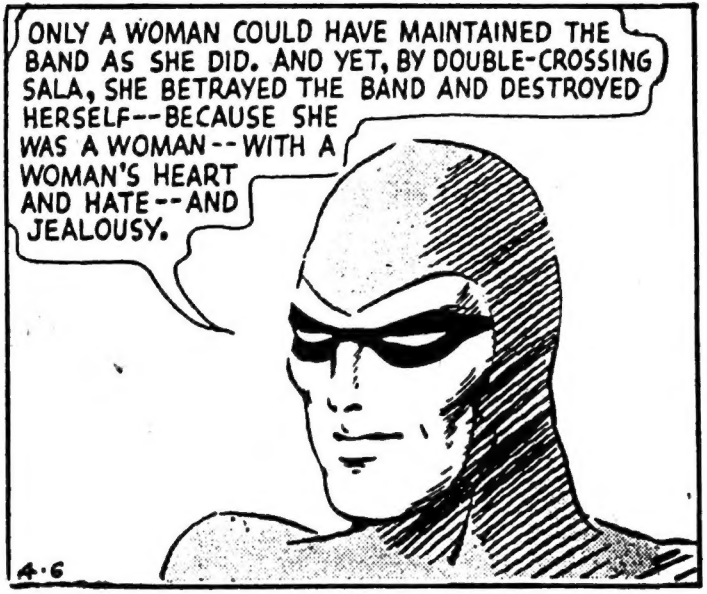
HORTON PURSUES THE ESCAPING SKY BAND PLANE, NOT KNOWING THAT THE BARONESS --DEAD-- SITS AT THE LOCKED CONTROLS OF THE PLANE.

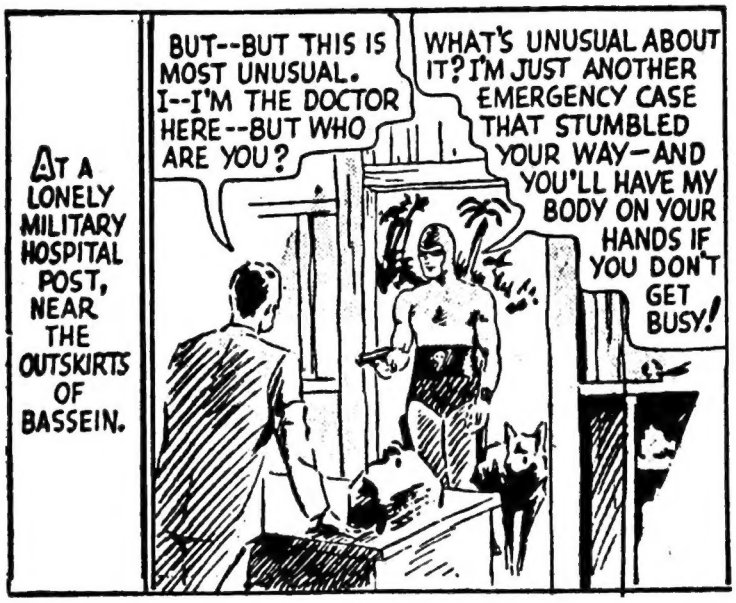


HORTON'S PURSUIT PLANE GAINS GROUND, AND SWOOPS DOWN ON THE ILL-FATED SHIP—

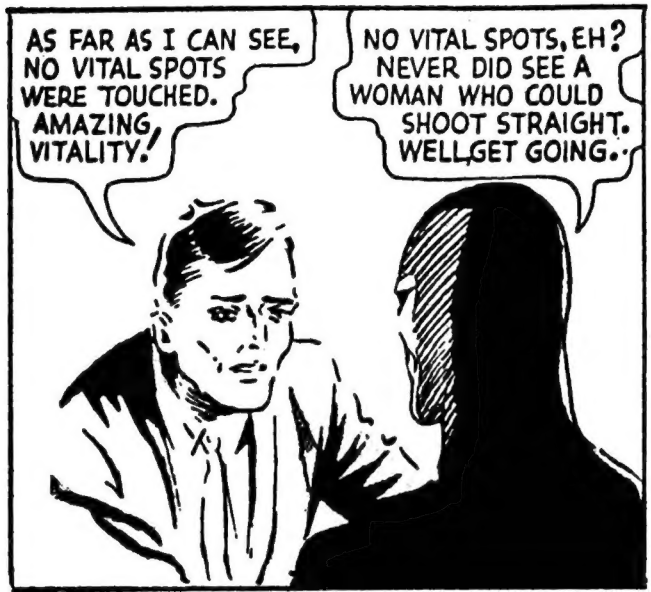
—BUT BEFORE HE CAN REACH IT, A SUDDEN SQUALL SENDS THE PLANE AND ITS DEAD PILOT TO A WATERY GRAVE!

THE END OF THE SKY BAND--AND THE BARONESS. ENDING THE MOST RUTHLESS PIRACY I'VE EVER KNOWN, DEVIL. AND THEY WERE ALL WOMEN! IT'S VERY STRANGE---


ONLY A WOMAN COULD HAVE MAINTAINED THE BAND AS SHE DID. AND YET, BY DOUBLE-CROSSING SALA, SHE BETRAYED THE BAND AND DESTROYED HERSELF--BECAUSE SHE WAS A WOMAN--WITH A WOMAN'S HEART AND HATE--AND JEALOUSY.
4·6


AT A LONELY MILITARY HOSPITAL POST, NEAR THE OUTSKIRTS OF BASSEIN.
BUT--BUT THIS IS MOST UNUSUAL. I--I'M THE DOCTOR HERE--BUT WHO ARE YOU?
WHAT'S UNUSUAL ABOUT IT? I'M JUST ANOTHER EMERGENCY CASE THAT STUMBLED YOUR WAY—AND YOU'LL HAVE MY BODY ON YOUR HANDS IF YOU DON'T GET BUSY!

GOOD HEAVENS, MAN! TWO BULLETS IN YOUR CHEST! HOW FAR DID YOU COME?
FAR ENOUGH. UH--TAKE IT EASY--


AS FAR AS I CAN SEE, NO VITAL SPOTS WERE TOUCHED. AMAZING VITALITY!
NO VITAL SPOTS, EH? NEVER DID SEE A WOMAN WHO COULD SHOOT STRAIGHT. WELL, GET GOING.

BUT--THIS REQUIRES HOSPITALIZATION--AND--AND--WON'T YOU PUT YOUR GUN AWAY?
NO. WHAT'S MORE, I'M IN A HURRY. GET STARTED—AND STOP GROWLING, DEVIL. THIS MAN ISN'T GOING TO HARM ME.
4·7

WE CAPTURED THE SURVIVORS OF THE SKY BAND, DIANA. HE WAS WITH THE BARONESS WHEN HER PLANE WENT INTO THE SEA---
I WON'T BELIEVE HE'S DEAD--I WON'T—

I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FORGIVE MYSELF FOR MISJUDGING HIM. WE HUNTED AND HOUNDED HIM--AND ALL ALONG, HE WAS TRYING TO DESTROY THE SKY BAND. I WAS A STUPID FOOL!
4-8
Inc. World rights reserved
1937 King Features Syndicate

WELL,--THERE'S NO REASON FOR ME TO STAY HERE ANY LONGER, MEL. I'M--GOING HOME.
DIANA, PLEASE STAY HERE. YOU'VE STILL GOT YOUR LIFE TO LIVE. I WANT TO TAKE CARE OF YOU. I LOVE YOU, DIANA.

I'M SORRY, MEL. HE DIED, THINKING THAT I DID NOT BELIEVE IN HIM—OR WHAT IS WORSE--PERHAPS HE DIED--WITHOUT THINKING OF ME --AT ALL.

WON'T YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND ABOUT GOING, DIANA?
OH, MEL—I'M ALL BROKEN UP INSIDE. I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY. I'VE GOT TO TRY TO FORGET HOW HE LOOKED THE LAST TIME I SAW HIM--

--HIS EYES, PLEADING WITH ME THROUGH HIS MASK, TRYING TO MAKE ME UNDERSTAND AS HE KISSED THAT--THAT OTHER WOMAN. I KNOW NOW THAT HE DID IT TO SAVE MY LIFE. GOOD--GOOD-BYE, MEL.

SHE'S GONE--AND THE PHANTOM'S GONE. IT'S--INCREDIBLE. THERE'S ALWAYS BEEN A PHANTOM IN THE JUNGLES! EVEN NOW THE WAR DRUMS ARE STARTING AGAIN--AFTER ALL THE YEARS THAT HE'S KEPT THE PEACE OF THE JUNGLE.
4-9

GOOD--HEAVENS! AM I--SEEING THINGS? YOU!
WHERE'S DIANA?

DIANA--GONE? HORTON, YOU'VE GOT TO LEND ME AN ARMY PLANE. I'LL TAKE HER OFF THAT BOAT!
YOU DON'T WASTE ANY TIME, DO YOU? I GUESS I CAN ARRANGE THAT I STILL HAVEN'T RECOVERED FROM THE SHOCK OF SEEING YOU ALIVE AND IN ONE PIECE!

AH--TO SEE DIANA AGAIN! WE'LL MAKE IT A COMPLETE SURPRISE AND--- WHAT'S THAT! DID YOU JUST HEAR FAINT DRUM-BEATS?
YES--THEY'VE BEEN COMING STEADILY-NOW--FOR THE PAST WEEK.

THE WAR-DRUMS! AS SOON AS I TURN MY BACK ON THE JUNGLE TROUBLE STARTS! BUT I--I'VE GOT TO GO TO DIANA.
OF COURSE, YOU DO. DON'T WORRY ABOUT YOUR JUNGLE PEOPLE. WE'LL SETTLE THE TROUBLE.
4-10

YOUR SOLDIERS? ALL THEY CAN DO IS BUTCHER. FOR CENTURIES MY LINE HAS KEPT THE PEACE OF THE JUNGLE. THERE'S NO WAY OUT. AH--DIANA--WELL, I'VE GOT TO GO BACK!
Inc. World rights reserved
Copr. 1947 King Features Syndicate
NEXT WEEK - WAR IN THE JUNGLE!